

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

First and foremost, energy audits provide the best starting place for increasing your home's energy efficiency. However, remember that energy audits, by themselves, do not save energy or improve comfort. Energy audits provide a blueprint that enables your energy improvement goals. Only when homeowners actually implement the recommended energy improvement measures will homes use less energy and feel more comfortable. Energy audit recommendations:

- ◆ Increase insulation levels in your home that save on heating costs and increase your home comfort.
- ◆ Stop air leaks around walls, ceilings, windows, doors, lighting fixtures, light switches and electrical outlets.
- ◆ Enable utility savings through the installation of high efficiency heating/cooling systems.

Energy Efficiency Tips for 2018

1. Manage Home Temperature

Technology provides simple energy saving options, such as installing a programmable thermostat, that manage your indoor temperatures. Managing temperatures reduces utility bills and wasted energy.

2. Proper Insulation

Proper insulation not only cuts down on excess noise, but more importantly permits better temperature control while saving up to 20% on your energy bill.

3. Seal Air Leaks

Leaks in your home allows cold air outside in wintertime to sneak in. Look for areas in your home that are most often the culprits of leaks, such as electrical outlets, doors and windows, baseboards, caulking, vents, weather-stripping, attic doors, and fireplace dampers. Run your hand over these areas. If you feel the cool air, you may want to recaulk or seal those places in your home that are allowing the outside air in.

4. Cover Drafty Windows

If you have updated your insulation, sealed the air leaks and are still cold in your house in the winter, the windows might be the problem. Keep the heat inside (and cold outside) your home by covering your windows with heavy plastic.

5. Change Air Filters

Air filters remain a key component of a functioning HVAC system. Air from inside the home is pulled in through the air filter and then supplied to the rest of the home through the HVAC system. The air filter prevents dirt, dust, and other particles from entering your system and moving to other areas of the home. So, if the filter is dirty or clogged it reduces airflow and makes the system work harder to keep you warm or cool.

6. Replace Light Bulbs

Energy efficient light bulbs, such as CFLs and LEDs are more efficient than traditional incandescent bulbs because they use less energy. Use LED light bulbs predominantly throughout your home.

7. Constant Minor Adjustments

The little things matter. In particular, minor adjustments make huge improvements over time. For example, here are some small actions which help lower your utility bill.

Turning the temperature of your home down slightly at night during the winter saves on heating energy.

Wear warmer clothes in the winter instead of turning the home's thermostat up.

Close and lock all windows during the winter. The weather-stripping on windows works better when the windows are closed tight.

8. Be Mindful

Simply turn off lights when they are not in use. You'll be surprised how much electricity is wasted because a light or device was unintentionally left on.

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IMGA Eligible Utility

- DD Farms, Inc.
- Graceland University
- Illinois State University
- Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
- Western Illinois University

IMGA would like to remind our Missouri members about the Missouri Municipal League Annual Meeting . It is scheduled for September 16-19, 2018 at the Hilton Branson Convention Center.



The 2019 APGA natural gas calendars are now available for ordering. These calendars were developed by Crabtree Ink and use the themes from the APGA Look Closer marketing campaign. You can order the calendars by going to www.apgalookcloser.com, and click on the link at the top of the page. No login is required.

The 2019 calendar will feature 12 months devoted to promoting the natural gas industry through recipes, messages and professional photography. A custom tab (two inches below the bottom page) allows for your company information, web address and logo. Order today before pre-sales end on August 17, and receive them before Public Natural Gas week in October.



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