

Energy Saving Living Area Tips

LIGHTING FIXTURES

Replacing your five most frequently used light fixtures, or the bulbs in them, with ENERGY STAR® qualified lights can save you more than \$65 a year in energy costs. ENERGY STAR qualified CFL light bulbs provide high-quality light, produce 75% less heat, last up to 10 times longer and use 75% less energy than standard incandescent light bulbs. Replacing a 100-watt incandescent bulb with a 23-watt CFL can save you up to \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb.

AIR VENTS

To maintain comfortable temperatures throughout your home, keep air vents clear of obstructions such as furniture and drapes. This will allow air to circulate freely. If your home has radiators or strip heating, place heat-resistant reflectors between the heating source and the walls. This will help heat the room instead of the wall.

DRAPES/SHADES

Window shades help keep your home cool in summer and warm in winter, which helps you save energy. Close all window shades and drapes in warm weather to keep out the heat, and keep drapes open during daylight hours in the winter to take advantage of the sun's warmth.

CEILING FAN WITH LIGHTING

Ceiling fans provide comfort and help save money on your energy bill. Increase your thermostat's setting by two degrees and use your ceiling fan to lower energy costs by up to 6% over the course of the air conditioning season. Also, use low wattage CFLs in the ceiling fan light fixture for cooler light bulbs and more energy savings.

LIGHT SWITCH

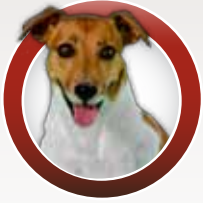
Turning off just one 60-watt incandescent bulb before you leave the house for the day can save about \$13 per year in energy costs. Always turn off the lights when leaving a room. It's the easiest way to save energy and money.

TELEVISION/HOME THEATRE SYSTEM

Electronics play an increasingly larger role in your home's energy consumption, accounting for 15% of household electricity use. Most electronics use energy even when turned off. Electronics earning the ENERGY STAR help save energy when off – while maintaining features like clock displays, channel settings and remote-control functions.

POWER STRIP

Most electronic equipment uses a small amount of standby electricity even when turned off, anywhere from a few watts to as many as 40 watts for each piece of equipment. Use a power strip for your electronic, computer and peripheral equipment to completely disconnect the power supply from the power source, eliminating standby power consumption.



Energy Saving Living Area Tips

PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT

Install a programmable thermostat to automatically adjust your home's temperature settings when you're away or sleeping – and save up to \$100 a year. To save energy with a manual thermostat, set it at 78 F in the summer and 68 F in the winter, then leave it alone. Constantly adjusting the temperature causes your system to work harder.

MULTI-FUNCTION DEVICES

Save energy and space with ENERGY STAR qualified multi-function devices that combine several capabilities – computer peripherals (print, fax, copy, scan) and televisions with DVD and VHS players. For additional energy savings, make sure power management features are enabled.

ELECTRICAL OUTLETS

Keeping conditioned air from leaking out saves you energy and money. Seal holes around outlets with an inexpensive outlet gasket.

POWER ADAPTERS

Save energy by unplugging battery chargers and power adapters when not in use or when your equipment is fully charged and disconnected from the charger.

COMPUTERS AND MONITORS

Most home office equipment is left on 24 hours a day. Save energy and money by setting computers and monitors to automatically switch to sleep mode. This mode not only uses less energy, it runs cooler and helps the equipment last longer, allowing for additional savings on your air conditioning.