



Here are some low-cost tips to save energy and reduce your monthly energy bill:

WINTER / SUMMER

- Set your thermostat comfortably low in the winter and comfortably high in the summer (68° in the winter and 78° in the summer).
- Remember: the thermostat is not like the gas pedal on your car. Turning it to the highest setting does not warm up your home any faster.
- Keep the windows closed and locked when using the heating system or air conditioner.
- In the winter, open drapes or blinds during the day to allow the sun's warmth into your house. During the summer, close drapes or blinds during the day to keep the sun out.
- During the winter, put plastic over windows to reduce heat loss and decrease drafts.
- During the winter, move your furniture so you are not sitting near exterior walls or windows.
- During the winter, reverse your ceiling fan motor to disperse warm air collecting near the ceiling. There is a switch on the base of the fan.

APPLIANCES

- Appliances like DVD players and televisions still use power when they are plugged in but not turned on. Unplug these appliances or use a power-strip and turn the switch off when not in use.
- Use the air-drying cycle instead of the heated-drying cycle on your dishwasher.
- Wash your clothes in cold water. They get just as clean and colors will fade less quickly.
- Clean the lint filter on your dryer after every load. Check the venting 2 times a year to be sure it isn't clogged.
- Open the refrigerator and oven doors as seldom as possible, and close them as quickly as possible. Each time they're opened a large amount of cold or heat has to be replaced and that takes energy.
- Place your gas water heater on "vacation" mode, or turn off your electric water heater when you leave town for more than a few days. Don't forget to turn it back on when you get home.
- Vacuum the coils at the back or bottom of your refrigerator twice a year.
- Wait until you have a full load before running the clothes washer or dishwasher.
- Turn off your computer or put it in "sleep" mode when it is not being used.
- Whenever possible use the microwave for reheating food rather than your electric oven.

Please see the references on the back of this sheet for more information.

Thank you for participating in the Weatherization Program and for doing your part to conserve energy!

YEAR-ROUND

- Dress appropriately for the weather.
- If possible, take a quick shower instead of a bath.
- Keep radiators, air registers and baseboard heaters clean. Make sure furniture or drapes don't block them.

Energy Conservation & Renewable Energy

Focus on Energy Information Center: 800-762-7077 OR www.focusonenergy.com/Information-Center

Midwest Renewable Energy Association: www.the-mrea.org

RENEW Wisconsin: www.renewwisconsin.org

Home Power Magazine: www.homepower.com/home

MATC Renewable Energy Classes: matcmadison.edu/matc/offerings/programs/pdfs/RenewableEnergy.pdf

Madison Area Recycle & Reuse

Habitat ReStore (Reused & Affordable Building Supplies): (608) 661-2813 OR www.restoredane.org/home.cfm

Dane County Recycling: www.co.dane.wi.us/pwht/recycling.aspx

UW SWAP: www.bussvc.wisc.edu/swap

Madison Stuff Exchange: www.madisonstuffexchange.com

Freecycle: groups.yahoo.com/group/madisonfreecycle

Madison Area Sustainable Living

City of Madison Sustainability Page: www.cityofmadison.com/Sustainability/index.cfm

Sustain Dane: www.sustaindane.org

Dane County Buy Local: www.danebuylocal.com/home

Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture: www.macsac.org

Madison Environmental Group: www.madisonenvironmental.com

The Aldo Leopold Foundation: www.aldoleopold.org

Madison Public Library Booklist: www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/booklists/sustaining.html

Sustainable Building & Remodeling

Home Green Home (Sustainable Building Supplies): www.homegreenhome.biz/home.html

EcoFriendly Flooring: www.ecofriendlyflooring.com

Timbergreen Forestry: my.execpc.com/~tmbrgrn

Water Conservation

Water Conservation Tips: www.monolake.org/waterconservation

Rain Garden Manual: www.dnr.state.wi.us/ORG/WATER/WM/dsfm/shore/documents/rgmanual.pdf

Alliance for Water Efficiency: www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org