

Five FREE Things You Can Do at Home To Save Energy During the Winter



1. **Adjust your thermostat.** In the winter, set the heat to 68 degrees. If the temperature change is too drastic, lower the thermostat one or two degrees each week until you are comfortable at 68 degrees.



- Dress in layers to trap body heat. Wear a sweater and thick pair of socks.
- Sit under a blanket when watching TV or reading.
- Place an extra blanket on your bed to keep you warm overnight.

2. **Block drafts around doors and windows.** Roll up thick towels and place inside against the bottom of closed exterior doors and on window sills to block winter winds.

- Close your curtains or blinds at night and on cloudy days.
- Open blinds to allow direct sun in for warmth.



3. **Keep exterior doors and windows closed.** If your house has storm doors or storm windows, make sure all are closed tightly.

4. **Adjust your water heater temperature.** A setting of 120 degrees or “warm” provides hot water and reduces the risk of scalding.

5. **Use your fireplace wisely.** In addition to making your home feel cozy and warm, a fireplace pulls indoor air – that you paid to heat – up the chimney as the fire burns.

- Keep chimney damper closed when a fire is not burning (Make sure you **open** the damper before starting a fire.)
- When you light a fire, close interior doors and lower your thermostat setting to reduce the amount of heated air drawn up the chimney.
- If you have doors on the front of your fireplace, keep them closed.



For more money-saving energy tips, call 528-4YOU to request our free Energy Savers brochure or visit us at mlgw.com to find more ways you can save, calculate savings from different thermostat settings and learn what to shop for when buying appliances.

Five FREE Things You Can Do at Home To Save Energy During the Summer



1. **Adjust your thermostat.** In the summer, set your thermostat to 78 degrees. If the temperature change is too drastic, raise the thermostat one or two degrees each week until you are comfortable at 78 degrees. Use ceiling fans or box fans to create a breeze that will make you feel five degrees cooler. For each degree you set the thermostat below 78, your monthly cooling costs increase six percent.



2. **Block drafts around doors and windows.** If you felt cold air seeping in under doors and windows during the winter, remember to block those air leaks during the summer too. Roll up thick towels and place inside against the bottom of closed exterior doors and on window sills to block air leaks. Close your curtains or blinds during the day to block out the sun.

3. **Keep exterior doors and windows closed.** If your house has storm doors or storm windows, make sure all are closed tightly.

4. **Adjust your water heater temperature.** A setting of 120 degrees or "warm" provides hot water and reduces the risk of scalding.



5. **Cook, wash laundry and do other chores in the morning or late evening.**



Household chores that produce heat and moisture increase the indoor temperature, making your air conditioner work harder. Do these activities during the cooler hours of the day. Consider drying clothes outdoors instead of using the dryer; it will keep your house cooler and save you money.

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