

Energy-Saving Tips, Cont.

Energy-Saving Tips



- Turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- Replace your light bulbs with LEDs or compact fluorescent bulbs. LEDs use 90% less energy and CFLs use 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs. You can save \$65-100 per year if you replace your 5 most frequently used bulbs with LEDs or CFLs. LED and CFL bulb prices are discounted in the District.
- Plug electronics into a power strip and turn off the power strip when you're not using the electronics. If you see a little light or the plug is generating heat, the electronics are still in standby mode and using power.
- Unplug chargers for your portable electronics. If you unplug all electronics when not in use, you could save up to \$120 per year.
- Only run your dishwasher when it's full. Avoid using the heat-dry, rinse-hold and pre-rinse features. Instead use the air-dry option.
- Wash clothes in cold water and only run the washer when it's full.
- Don't use the clothes dryer. Hang clothes to dry. If you do use the dryer, clean the lint filter each use and don't overload the dryer. You will save up to 5% on your energy bill.

- When you are buying products such as electronics and appliances, look for the Energy Star label. Depending on the item, this can save you \$30-\$200 per item per year.
- Weatherize your house by sealing drafts and adding insulation. Go to dcseu.com to learn about energy audits and weatherization incentives. Low income residents can go to green.dc.gov or call 202-673-6732 to see if you qualify for weatherization assistance.
- Turn your water heater thermostat down to 120° Fahrenheit or lower.
- Turn your thermostat down in the winter & up in the summer. Just changing the temperature by 1° could save you \$100 per year. Install a programmable thermostat to save even more money. Avoid dramatic daily home temperature changes.
- Try opening windows and using fans instead of using the air conditioner.
- Regularly clean or replace the filters of your air conditioners and/or heaters.
- Place a sheet of aluminum foil under your ironing board pad. When you iron clothes, the foil will conduct heat so you will be ironing both sides at once.



Transportation Tips

- Bike, walk, or use public transportation (WMATA.com) as much as possible.
- If you need to drive, increase your fuel efficiency up to 40% by driving the speed limit and avoiding sudden braking or acceleration. Consolidate your trips as much as possible.
- If you don't need to drive often, consider selling your car and using a ride-sharing service such as Car2Go, ZipCar, or Enterprise CarShare instead – once purchase, maintenance, insurance, and gas costs are factored in, car ownership is often more expensive than car sharing.
- Keep your car tires properly inflated and maintain your car regularly.
- Take all unnecessary items out of your trunk, to reduce the weight that your car is carrying.

