

APPLIANCES

The average home uses \$2,200 worth of energy every year—and more than 20% of that goes right into your appliances



To learn more about saving energy in your home, visit these sites:

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

www.aceee.org

U.S. Department of Energy

www.energy.gov

Energy Star

www.energystar.gov

APPLIANCE 101

- **Thermostats** should be set between 36°F and 38°F for the refrigerator, and freezers should be kept at 0°F.
- **Use microwaves or toaster ovens** when you can. They use less energy than ovens.
- **Make sure** to keep refrigerator coils dust free and leave plenty of room behind the appliance so air can circulate!
- **Door seals and gaskets** need to be airtight. To test seals, close door on a piece of paper to see if it stays in place.

AVOID ENERGY VAMPIRES

- **Plug electronics into a power strip.** Then turn the strip off when not in use.
- **Pull the plug on that old fridge** located in the HOT garage or utility room. Some utility companies have appliance recycling programs and will pick it up for free. Check with your local electric company.
- **Look for ENERGY STAR qualified electronics.** These products are up to 30% more efficient than non-certified models.

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For more information you may contact:

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OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

JB Pritzker, Governor

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HOME ENERGY SAVINGS GUIDE

Save money on utilities
by making your home
more energy efficient



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity

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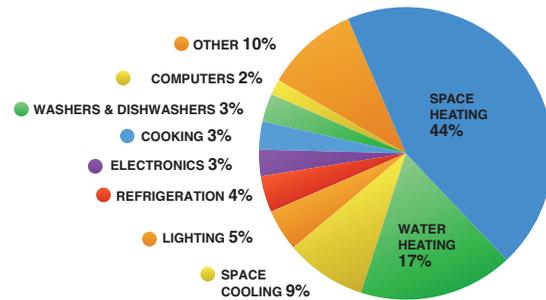
WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

LIGHTING 6%, on average, of your energy bill is spent lighting your home

COOLING 9% of your energy bill is spent cooling your home

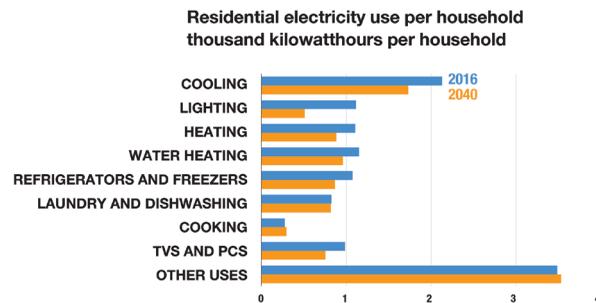
HEATING 45% of your energy bill is spent heating your home

RESIDENTIAL SITE ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY END USE



Source: Building Energy Data Book, 2015, U.S. Department of Energy; Madison County Community Development.

PROJECTED SAVINGS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

LIGHTS OFF

One 100-watt bulb left on overnight costs \$25 per year.

SWITCH IT UP

By switching to **Light-Emitting Diode (LED)** light bulbs the average home can save \$75 per year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

KEEP IT LIGHT AND CLEAN

Light-colored or opaque lampshades work best. Keep them clean and **dust FREE** for up to 25% better output.

BE A STAR



Buy ENERGY STAR® light fixtures when they are available. **ENERGY STAR® products use 75% less energy** than traditional fixtures.

REMEMBER

October is National Energy Awareness Month!



HEATING & COOLING CHALLENGE!

As much as half of the energy used in your home goes to **heating and cooling**. Making smart decisions about your home's heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system can have a big effect on your utility bills - and your comfort.

KEEP IT CLOSED

Make sure doors and windows are tightly closed when the AC is on and remember to close unused air vents. Also use shades, blinds and drapes to block the sun from overheating your home!

BE A FAN

Ceiling fans should be switched to turn in a counter-clockwise direction in the summer. You can also use ceiling fans to cool off for less.

CLEAN IT UP: Make sure AC air filters are cleaned at least once a month.

TUNE IT UP: Tuning up your AC system keeps it running efficiently and helps lower monthly bills.

COOL TIP

Set your thermostat to "auto" NOT "on" so your fan does not run constantly. Utilize a "set-back" thermostat.

WATCH YOUR THERMOSTAT

Set your thermostat to 68-70°F during the day in the winter, and 65-68°F at night.

Raise the temperature slowly

Raising the temperature too quickly activates the heat strip and uses a lot of energy.

Leave it on!

If you are out of town during the winter months, set your thermostat to 60°F but **don't turn it off!**

EFFICIENCY COUNTS

Change the filters in your heating system every month for optimum efficiency.

Give your air handler space to work efficiently. Never stack anything against your HVAC or drape anything over it! Air vents will also be more efficient without curtains or furniture blocking them.

HEAT UP WITH THESE TIPS!

- **Cover all bare floors.** Carpeting and rugs add heat retention.
- **Close the flue in your fireplace** and install glass doors to keep warm air in.
- **Limit your use of portable heaters.** They're great for "spot" heating, but can be expensive and dangerous.
- **Heat your home with the sun's help.** Leave window shades or blinds open during the daytime, and consider using solar heat!
- **Wall it up:** Insulate walls and attics to save energy by keeping cold outside air from seeping in.