

Act Now, Save Now

Ways to Save Money on Your Winter Heating Bills

Whether you heat your home with gas, oil, electricity or some other fuel you can save money by “winterizing your home.” By taking steps to make your home more energy efficient you will lower your energy consumption and thereby reduce your heating bill.

15 Things To Do Now To Winterize Your Home

1. Caulk or weatherstrip windows and doors to prevent heat loss.
2. Make sure warm-air registers are not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
3. Install a programmable thermostat to automatically drop to a lower temperature at night and at times when you are away from your house.
4. Tape a sheet of aluminum foil (shiny side out) to the wall behind radiators; this will help make them more efficient.
5. Insulate your attic, walls, basement, and crawl space.
6. Install storm windows and doors to help keep out drafts.
7. Move chairs and beds away from exterior walls; these are usually the coldest walls in the house.
8. Install aerating, low-flow faucets and showerheads to save hot water.
9. Lower the thermostat on water heater. Factory settings may be higher than necessary. A setting of 120° provides comfortable hot water for most uses and can save on water heating costs.
10. Insulate the first 6 feet of hot and cold water pipes connected to the water heater to avoid heat loss.
11. Drain a quart of water from your water tank every 3 months to remove sediment that impedes heat transfer and lowers the efficiency of your heater.
12. Clean and replace filters on furnace once a month or as needed to permit better air flow through the house.
13. Clean warm-air registers, baseboards heaters, and radiators.
14. Keep the damper closed when your fireplace is not in use to keep warm air in.
15. Keep the draperies and shades on windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home.