

Top 10 Low-cost Steps You Can Take This Summer



1 Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doors to stop air leaks. Seal any gaps in floors and walls around pipes and electrical wiring.



6 Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat appropriate for your type of heating system and set it at 78°F for cooling. *



2 Change filters monthly. Install a “filter whistle” to let you know when to change them.



7 Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when replacing large or small appliances.



3 Replace incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs.



8 Wrap your water heater with insulation or install an insulating blanket.



4 Repair air leaks and seal and insulate cooling system ductwork.



9 Install aerating, low-flow faucets and shower heads and repair leaky faucets.



5 Add insulation to your attic, crawl space and any accessible exterior walls. Add pipe insulation to the first 5 feet of water pipe coming from your water heater. Install light switch and electrical outlet seals on exterior walls.



10 Use power strips for home electronics, and turn off power strips when equipment is not in use. TVs and DVD players still use power when the switch is off.

*Lowering the thermostat will not cool your home faster. When temperatures reach 90 degrees or higher, turn your thermostat up 2 or 3 degrees if it is set lower than the recommended 78 degrees.