

Save Money by Saving Energy



Web Resources

More Energy Saving Tips
http://www.xcelenergy.com/COLORADO/RESIDENTIAL/SAVEENERGY_MONEY/Pages/Save_Energy_Money.aspx

Local Recycling Info
<http://www.ecocycle.org>

Boulder County Housing and Human Services Dept.
<http://www.bouldercounty.org/hhs>

Host a Green Halloween!
<http://houseparty.com/xcel/halloween>

Be Green In the Community

- Walk, bike, carpool, or ride the bus, whenever possible.
- Purchase locally grown, organic food. Try to buy food in bulk to reduce packaging waste.
- Recycle waste, and properly dispose of hazardous waste at County facilities.
- Donate to or volunteer for local environmental causes.
- Recycle or donate your old cell phones.
- Refill reusable water bottles instead of buying plastic ones and recycle any plastic bottles you get.
- Support reuse by donating and shopping at consignment and thrift shops.

Energy Efficiency for Renters

In Winter

- ✓ Open blinds and drapes to allow sun to warm rooms facing south and east. Close them at night to contain the heat.
- ✓ Turn your heat down at night and whenever you are away from home.

In Summer

- ✓ Use light colored blinds or drapes and keep them closed to block out the hot sun.
- ✓ Limit air conditioning use and turn up the thermostat. Use ceiling or portable fans instead. Open windows at night to let in cool air.
- ✓ Keep your heating/cooling filter clean or replace monthly to maximize efficiency.
- ✓ Close heat/cooling vents in rooms that are rarely used. Keep vents clear of furniture, drapes, etc. to allow warm or cooled air to move around.

In General

- ✓ Turn off lights and appliances that are not being used.
- ✓ Use power strips for TVs, computers, phone chargers, and stereo systems, and flip the switch off when not in use. Such appliances use electricity even when turned off.
- ✓ Set your refrigerator to between 30-38 degrees and your freezer to 0-5 degrees, and clean the coils regularly. Make sure there are a few inches of space behind the unit. Unplug extra refrigerators and freezers, and turn on only when needed.
- ✓ Improve the efficiency of your refrigerator by keeping food covered to reduce moisture inside.
- ✓ Seal air leaks around the home with caulk or weather-stripping.

Saving Water

- ✓ Install low flow showerheads in each bathroom. This can save almost 2000 gallons of water per year. This also reduces the amount of hot water you use, saving money off your power bill.
- ✓ Install faucet aerators on kitchen and bathroom faucets. About 15% of

your water is used in the kitchen sink.

- ✓ Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- ✓ Have water leaks repaired, including toilet leaks and dripping faucets.
- ✓ Take shorter showers. Short showers use less water than filling the tub for a bath.

- ✓ Set your water heater to 120 degrees and wrap it with an insulated water heater blanket, if you have access.
- ✓ Wash clothes in cold water. Most detergents work fine with cold water.
- ✓ Use a clothesline or drying rack instead of the clothes dryer, whenever possible.
- ✓ Keep the dryer lint filter clean.
- ✓ Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs throughout your home. They can save up to 75% of energy costs.
- ✓ When cooking, put a lid on the pot to contain heat. When baking, do not open the oven door unnecessarily; use a timer and oven light to check food.
- ✓ Use your microwave or toaster oven, instead of your regular oven, as often as possible.
- ✓ Do not use the heated dry function on your dishwasher, let them air dry.

