

Managing Home Energy Costs

Save On Home Heating Costs

In a drafty home, space heating/cooling can account for up to 60% of annual home energy costs. There are several ways to manage these costs while making your home more comfortable.

Energy Evaluation

- Monmouth Power & Light (MP&L) Home Energy Consultants offer a home energy audits. They will evaluate the homes windows, and insulation levels and recommend improvements, or give do-it-yourself advice. They'll even inspect completed work.
- TIP: If you don't use electricity to heat your home, contact your heating utility to see if a free on-site, home energy evaluation is available to you.

Heating

- TIP: Replace furnace air filters at the beginning and in the middle of the heating season. Turn thermostats down to about 55 - 60 degrees when sleeping or when no one is home. Keep room vents and zonal units clear and unobstructed for better distribution of heated air.

Insulation

- Heat transmission through ceilings, floors, walls and ducts are the main cause of winter heating energy loss.
- Insulation increases the comfort of your home, keeping you warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Windows

- Windows transmit more heating energy loss than any other surface of your home.
- Windows also gain solar heat in the summer.
- TIP: If you have single-pane windows, replace them with double-pane, thermal break windows with a U-value of 0.30 or lower. Contact your utility or a window replacement contractor for more information on bringing your home windows up to current standards. Argon gas and low E-coatings help increase new window energy efficiency.

Duct Sealing

- Disconnected, broken or leaky heating ducts can be a major cause of home heating energy loss.
- A professional blower door or duct blaster test will identify duct leaks, which should then be repaired or sealed.
- TIP: Contact a certified pressure diagnostics contractor for more information on testing and sealing your ducted heating system.

Air Leak Sealing

- Drafts around windows, doors, pipes, and framing can account for 5 to 40 percent of home heating energy loss.
- Proper air sealing such as caulking can also reduce entry of noise, moisture, pollution, and pests.
- The best way to locate hidden home air leaks is by having a professional blower door test conducted on your home.
- TIP: Contact a certified pressure diagnostics contractor for more information on identifying and sealing your home's air leaks.

Rebates Available: Monmouth Power & Light offers rebates to help customers save energy and make their homes more comfortable by upgrading insulation, windows, and sealing air and heating duct leaks.



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