

Zero to Low Cost Ways to Save Energy

Water Heaters:

- Set your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Insulate your water heater, even if it is indoors. Look for an Insulation Blanket at your local hardware store.
- Turn off water heater at the breaker if you are leaving town for more than a couple days.

Showers/Baths:

- Install high performance, water-saving showerheads.
- Set a timer and take shorter showers.
- Keep bath levels below 3 inches.

Faucets:

- Turn the water off while shaving or brushing your teeth.
- Fix leaky faucets. Thirty drips a minute of hot water will waste up to 50 gallons of water a month.
- Install water-savings faucet aerators on sinks you use the most.

Clothes Washing/Drying:

- Rinse all loads with cold water, most of the energy goes towards heating the water.
- Wash with warm or cold water.
- Run full loads.
- Hang Clothes outside to dry when possible.
- Clean lint filter after every load.
- Run separate loads for quick and slow drying items.
- Use "moisture" or "automatic" setting if your dryer has one.

Dish Washing:

- Run full loads.
- Use the shortest cycle that will get the job done.
- Use the Air Dry or Energy Saver setting.
- Don't run the water the entire time when washing by hand.
- Use basins to rinse/soak dishes.
- Install high-efficiency faucet aerators.

Waterbeds:

- Pull the covers up so they cover the whole bed. They will act like insulation.
- Insulate the bottom and sides with polystyrene foam insulation.
- Lower the water bed thermostat, if adjustable.

Windows:

- Lock your windows, it creates a tighter seal.
- Seal leaks around windows and door frames.
- Add weather stripping and door sweeps to doors, replace as they wear out.
- Install insulated window coverings or other energy-saving draperies.

Refrigerator & Freezer:

- Set the refrigerator to 38-40 degrees Fahrenheit.

- Set stand alone freezers to 0 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Unplug "soda or beer" refrigerators if you do not need them.
- Vacuum coils behind and underneath refrigerator twice a year.
- Repair damaged door gaskets with self-stick foam tape.
- A full refrigerator uses less energy than an empty one.
- Allow 2 inches of air space around your refrigerator, this helps it run efficiently.
- Keep your refrigerator out of direct sun, and place it away from your stove or dishwasher.

Lights:

- Turn off lights when you don't need them.
- Install lower watt bulbs in hallways and closets.
- Change out your standard light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs). CFLs use 75% less energy than standard light bulbs.
- Get rid of halogen floor lamps. They burn much hotter than other lights and can pose a fire hazard.
- Install motion detectors, occupancy sensors, timers and dimmers.

Cooking:

- Cook several meals at a time.
- Cover pans to cook food faster.
- Use pans that fully cover the burner.
- Use an electric skillet, microwave or toaster oven when possible, they cook faster.

Fireplace:

- Close your damper when the fireplace is not in use.
- Keep the fireplace doors shut.
- Purchase a fireplace pillow. It inserts into the chimney to stop heat from escaping when the fireplace is not in use.

Ventilation Fans:

- Turn off ventilation fans in the kitchen and bathroom as soon as their job is done. They pull warmed/cooled air out of the house.
- Install timers, 10 minutes is usually sufficient.

Misc Equipment:

- Turn off lights, computers, home electronics and battery chargers when not in use.
- Unplug home electronics and battery chargers when possible. Most have a memory that draws electricity even when turned off.



401 Hogan Road, Monmouth OR 97361

Office: 503.838.3526

www.ci.monmouth.or.us