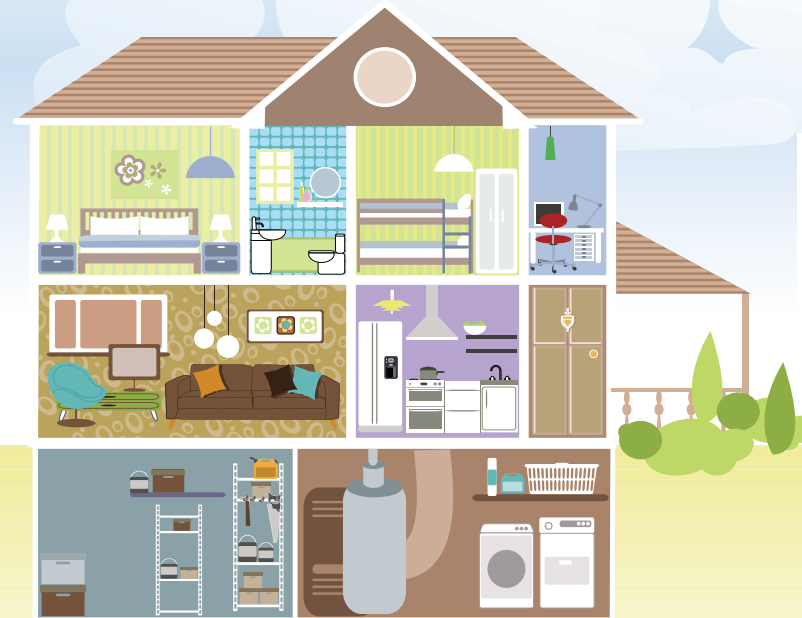


# ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS



Simple, energy conservation techniques you can use in every room around your home that can save you money and help the environment.

*This guide is designed to help you and your family reduce electricity costs without making expensive investments*

## Space heating and cooling

**\$\$\$** Install a programmable thermostat to manage the amount of energy used to heat and cool your home, especially when you are not home or sleeping. Through PowerStream's **peaksaver**® program you can receive a free touch screen programmable thermostat that will help you control the heating and cooling of your home and help the environment at the same time.

Please call **1-866-323-0206** or visit [www.powerstream.ca/peaksaver](http://www.powerstream.ca/peaksaver).

**\$\$\$** Consider having a home energy audit done if you feel your home is too drafty. Visit [www.powerwise.ca](http://www.powerwise.ca) for more information and how 50% of the audit costs can be covered.

**\$\$** Caulk, seal and weather-strip windows to keep heat in during the winter and cool in during the summer.

**\$\$\$** Use plastic window film or removable caulking on windows not in use during the winter.

**\$** Use heavy curtains, especially ones with insulation liners, that go all the way down to the floor. Ensure they don't interfere with heaters or vents.

**\$** Seasonally work with your window coverings to make your home more energy efficient. In the winter open window coverings during the day to let in direct sunlight and in the summer close them during the day to keep direct sunlight out.

**\$\$** Consider using fans instead of air conditioners. If you use an air conditioner, turn the temperature setting up so it does not run continuously.

## Electric hot water tanks

**\$\$** Wrap an electric hot water tank with an insulating blanket, especially when located in an unheated area.

**\$\$** Insulate water pipes leaving the hot water tank.

**\$\$** Consider replacing an old electric water heater with a new tankless water heater, which heats water only on-demand.

## Fridges and freezers

**\$\$\$** Owning a second older fridge may be costing you up to \$150 a year. If you use the fridge occasionally, consider removing it with the **Great Refrigerator Roundup**, a hassle-free and environmentally friendly way to remove fridges that are 15 years and older. Please call **1-877-797-9473** to book an appointment.

**\$** If applicable, turn OFF the butter warmer and turn ON the energy saver switch in your fridge.

**\$** Vacuum and clean the coils to remove dust on the back and/or under the fridge (where accessible), make sure there is enough air space between the fridge and the wall. Clean the door seal so it closes tightly. Note: fridge must be unplugged before doing any maintenance.

**\$** Avoid overfilling the fridge or the freezer, they are most efficient when 2/3 full.

**\$** Don't let frost in the freezer exceed 1/4 inch. Defrost it regularly but don't use a sharp object to remove ice as you could puncture the walls.

**\$** Ideal fridge temperature is 1 to 5°C, ideal freezer temperature is -15 to -20°C.

### LEGEND

**\$\$\$** Larger savings  
**\$\$** Moderate savings  
**\$** Smaller savings

[www.powerstream.ca/conservation](http://www.powerstream.ca/conservation)

## How much does it cost to use appliances?

The following calculation will provide you with the approximate annual cost of using your appliance. Actual costs may vary, depending on the appliances' characteristics.

**1** Multiply the watts (W) displayed on your appliance nameplate by the number of hours it operates per year to get watt-hours (Wh)

**2** Divide by 1,000 to get kilowatt-hours (kWh)

**3** Multiply by \$0.10 to get the estimated cost in dollars

(Your average electricity cost is currently about \$0.10 per kWh, but there are fixed fees that you pay regardless of how much you consume or conserve.)

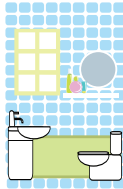
**For example, the cost to operate a 4 watt night light that is plugged in all the time = 4 watts x 24 hours x 365 days ÷ 1,000 x \$0.10 cents = \$3.50 per year.**

### Taps and shower heads

**\$\$\$** Install water efficient shower heads and encourage everyone to take short showers.

**\$\$** Repair leaky taps and replace the gasket if necessary, especially for hot water taps.

**\$** Install a faucet aerator to save on both water and water heating costs.



### Laundry

**\$\$\$** Use the cold water setting on the washer whenever possible and always rinse with cold water.

**\$\$\$** Dry your clothes outside or use an indoor rack set near a sunny window. The extra humidity will make your house more comfortable in the winter.

**\$\$** If you use a clothes dryer, clean the lint trap after every load and make sure the vent isn't blocked.

**\$\$** Run the spin cycle on the washing machine twice to remove excess moisture and reduce drying time. If drying more than one load, do the second load right away so the dryer doesn't cool down.

**\$\$** When purchasing a new washer, consider a front-load model – they are more energy efficient and use less water.



### Cooking

**\$\$** Use a microwave or toaster oven instead of the oven to heat up, toast or cook small amounts of food.

**\$** Use an electric kettle for boiling water, instead of a pot on the stove. Boil only as much water as you need.

**\$** If buying an electric kettle, get one with a water level indicator as it makes boiling the right amount of water easier.

**\$** Turn off the stove top or oven before you're finished cooking as the retained heat will keep food cooking for several minutes.

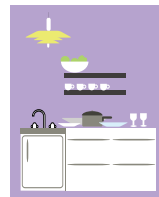
**\$** Use pots the same size as the element and always use lids.



### Dishwashing

**\$\$\$** Wash dishes by hand in a sink (without water running).

**\$** If you use a dishwasher, scrape excess food off dishes, don't pre-rinse, use the shortest cycle (econo) only when the dishwasher is full and air dry dishes instead of using the heating element.



### Lighting

**\$\$** Use compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) in fixtures that are on more than three hours per day. They use 75% less electricity than incandescent bulbs.

**\$** Use timers and motion sensors for indoor and outdoor lighting so lights come on only when needed.

**\$** Use lower wattage lights where possible and avoid over lighting areas.

**\$** Take advantage of natural light as much as possible.

**\$** Use LED holiday lights instead of incandescent lights.



### Other things

**\$\$\$** Avoid using electric space heaters.

**\$\$\$** If you have a pool pump it should be on a timer so it doesn't run excessively.

**\$\$\$** If you have an outdoor hot tub, make sure it is well insulated, turn the temperature down, and put it on a timer.

**\$** Control your phantom power by unplugging power adapters when not in use (eg. cell phone chargers). They will continue to use electricity even when not charging.

**\$** Consider using a timer power bar to control home entertainment centres while not in use.

## PowerStream Inc.

161 Cityview Boulevard, Vaughan, ON L4H 0A9

Vaughan Local: 905-417-6900

Toll Free: 1-877-963-6900

[www.powerstream.ca](http://www.powerstream.ca)

Residential Customers



peak  
saver



Business Customers

Plan on  
ERIP

OM Official mark of the Ontario Power Authority. © Registered trademark of Toronto Hydro Corporation. Used under license.

FSC Mixed Sources  
Product group from well-managed  
forests controlled sources and  
recycled wood or fibre.  
www.fsc.org Cert no. SGS-COC-004659  
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council