

More ways to save:



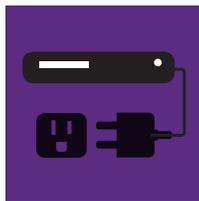
Laundry

Run full loads of laundry

Even if it means waiting a few days before you run a load, you will save electricity and gas.

Air dry your clothes

To maximize your savings, hang your clothes to dry!



Electronics & Appliances

Unplug small appliances

Do this when you leave or when appliances aren't in use. Appliances and electronics will continue to use electricity from the outlet when they are plugged in, even if they are powered off. Another way to do this is to also plug them into a power strip and then push the "off" button.



Computers

Set computers to sleep mode

Set computers and even printers, fax machines, or other devices that often take time to power up, to a sleep mode or energy efficient setting when not in use. Better yet, power them down if you can!

Don't use screensavers

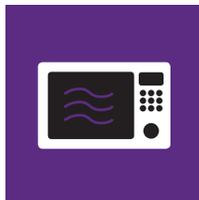
Instead, turn your monitor off when you leave your computer.



Kitchen Appliances

Close doors quickly on large appliances

Grab all ingredients at once from the fridge. Opening the door multiple times or longer than necessary allows the cooling to escape. Similarly, don't let the heat escape from your oven. Use the oven light when checking on food instead of opening the door.



Microwave

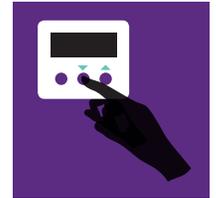
Use the microwave oven

Microwaves use significantly less electricity than traditional ovens do (and take less time – microwaves do not require pre-heating), saving you time and money.

Thermostat

Adjust While Away & Overnight

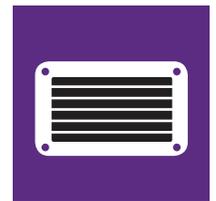
During the winter, turn the thermostat down while away or when you go to sleep. Dressing appropriately for bed at night can help keep the chill off and will reduce your heating bill. Some thermostats can be programmed to do this automatically for you.



Ventilation

Do not block any air vents or radiators

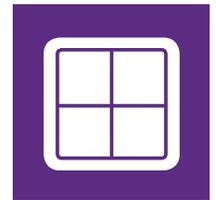
Do not block air vents or radiators with furniture, rugs, or anything else that can obstruct the airflow. The more obstructed airflow is in your home, the more inefficient your system is, causing you to waste natural gas and in return waste money.



Windows

Use natural cooling and heating when possible

Open windows overnight in the summer to cool instead of A/C whenever possible. Cover windows with shades during the summer days to keep the heat out and open shades during winter days to gain the heat. The curtains and blinds could also be used to insulate windows by closing them overnight in the winter.



Space Heater

Limit the use whenever possible

Before turning on that space heater, add an extra layer of clothes. Since space heaters are considered an electricity energy hog, they can be a costly way to heat your home. Put on an extra layer before using the space heater. Of course, if you decide to use the heater, make sure to turn it off when leaving a room or going to bed. This will help save money and is a safety precaution.



Washing Dishes

Fill the sink before you wash

Plug and fill the sink when doing dishes – hand-washing dishes uses more water, and more gas to heat that water when letting the water continuously flow.



Choosing 3 of these action items could mean more money for:  groceries,  childcare, and  transportation.