

ENERGY SAVING TIPS – HOT WATER



Keep your energy bills out of hot water. SET THE TIMES YOU WANT THE HOT WATER - Use the timer switch to save energy and money.

Water heating is the second largest energy expense in your home. It typically accounts for about 18% -20% of your utility bill after heating and cooling.

Whether you're looking for no-cost habit changes, low-cost purchases or improvements, there's something here for you:

- 1. Take short showers instead of baths.** Of course, your savings here depends on your and your family's habits. A long, hot shower may use a lot more hot water than a bath where the tub isn't filled to the brim. But even a bath with only a few inches of water can use a heck of a lot of water if you have one of those HUGE jetted bathtubs! A warm bath is a nice luxury, but for daily bathing stick with a short shower. And if you can stand it, you might even try turning off the water while soaping up, shampooing, or shaving!
- 2. Reduce your time in the shower.** I know I sometimes spend too long in the shower because I'm just too cold to get out! This is anecdotal, but keeping the bathroom door tightly closed seems to keep the air much warmer; just run the fan to take care of the steam. Having a big towel and big fluffy robe nearby also helps!
- 3. Lower the temperature on your water heater to 120°F;** for every 10°F reduction in temperature, you can save from 3%–5% on your water heating costs.
- 4. Don't let the water run.** Are you guilty of leaving the water on while you brush your teeth? Or when you step away to grab dirty dishes, or find the soap? All of those extra minutes can add up to a lot of wasted water. It only takes a second to shut it off!
- 5. Use cold water for most laundry loads,** and always use cold water for the rinse cycle.
- 6. Use your dishwasher efficiently.** Wash only full loads, choose shorter wash cycles, and activate the booster heater if your dishwasher has one.
- 7. You could SET TIMES USUALLY –SEE MAP ABOVE FOR OFF PEAK TARIFFS.**