

Energy Efficiency Tips



National Fuel[®]

www.NationalFuelForThought.com

Saving money and energy is easier than you may think.

Extra money in your pocket. Cleaner air in your lungs. Natural gas gives you both. It's the ultimate "alternative" fuel of the future, generating less sulfur dioxide (a cause of acid rain), less nitrogen oxides (that can produce smog) and less particulate matter (dust, dirt, soot or smoke) than coal or oil. It costs less than other fuels. And there's enough natural gas to meet a large percentage of America's energy needs now. In fact, **natural gas is one of the most cost-effective, clean, efficient, secure and abundant fuels available!**

Quick, easy energy savings.

1 Set thermostats between 65 and 70 degrees during the winter and at 58 degrees when away from the house for more than a few hours. While sleeping, add an extra blanket for warmth. Keep in mind that warmer temperatures are recommended for homes with infants, ill or elderly persons.

2 Turn down thermostats automatically without sacrificing comfort by installing a programmable thermostat.

Savings: By turning your thermostat back 10 to 15 percent for eight hours per day, you can cut your annual heating bills by as much as 10 percent per year.

3 Change or clean furnace filters once a month during the heating season. Use the arrival of your natural gas bill as your reminder to change the filter.

4 Warm air rises, so use registers to direct warm air-flow across the floor.

5 Close vents and doors in unused rooms and close dampers on unused fireplaces.

6 Set your water heater to 120 degrees or the medium setting. You'll enjoy energy savings without sacrificing comfort. A family of four, each showering for five minutes a day, uses 700 gallons of water each week. Not surprisingly, water heating is a typical family's third-largest energy expense, accounting for about 14 percent of utility bills.

7 Insulate water heaters with insulation blankets in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines.

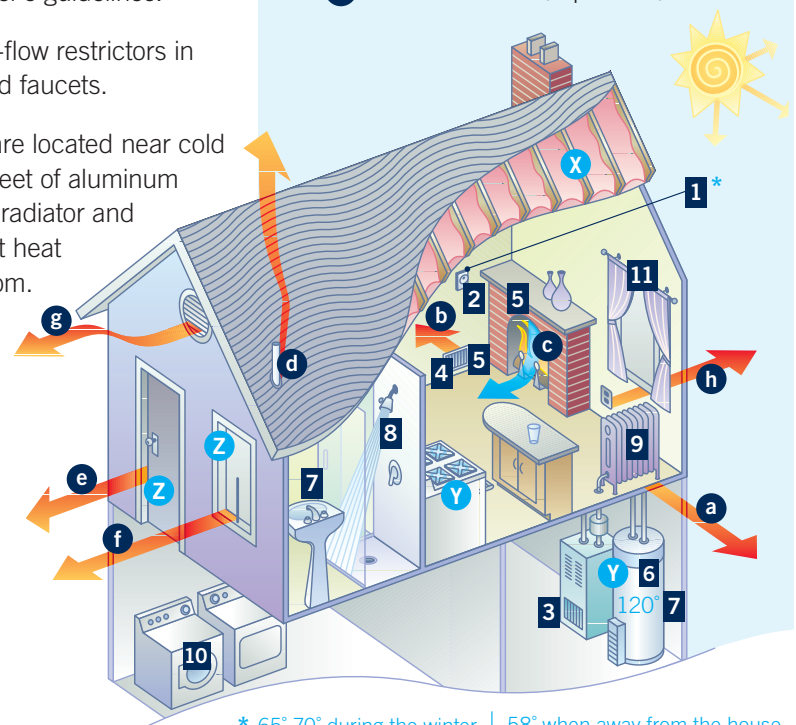
8 Install water-flow restrictors in showerheads and faucets.

9 If radiators are located near cold walls, place a sheet of aluminum foil between the radiator and the wall to reflect heat back into the room.

Keep the cold out to keep costs down.

Reducing air leaks with caulk or weather-stripping could cut as much as 10 percent from an average household's monthly energy bill. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the most common places where air escapes from homes are:

- a** floors, walls, ceilings (31 percent)
- b** ducts (15 percent)
- c** fireplaces (14 percent)
- d** plumbing penetrations (13 percent)
- e** doors (11 percent)
- f** windows (10 percent)
- g** fans and vents (4 percent)
- h** electric outlets (2 percent)



* 65°-70° during the winter | 58° when away from the house for more than a few hours

10 Run washing machines and clothes dryers with a full load.

11 On sunny days, let in the sun's warmth. Open draperies and blinds on windows that receive direct sunlight. Close them at night or on cloudy days to insulate against cold air outside.

Save big with long-term improvements, too.

Natural gas appliances are more efficient than electric appliances from generation to the point of use. The equivalent amount of electricity would cost you approximately two to three times as much, on average, as natural gas. So, choose natural gas appliances whenever possible. You'll save money on energy and reduce pollutants.

Plus, consider having your home evaluated for energy efficiency. Through the *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®* Program, a participating Building Performance Institute (BPI) accredited contractor

will assess your home, make recommendations for energy improvements and provide a cost estimate to do the improvements.

Visit: www.getenergysmart.org.

If you are of low-to-moderate income, you can make your home more energy efficient and reduce your utility bills, if eligible, with the *Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®* Program.

X Make sure the recommended levels of insulation are installed in your attic and basement.

Y Older furnaces aren't nearly as fuel efficient as today's high-efficiency models. Even if it's still in good working condition, an older furnace could be using approximately 15 percent more fuel than a new high-efficiency furnace. And an old water heater could be just as inefficient as an older furnace. When shopping for new appliances, compare energy efficiency ratings and annual operating costs.

Z Install storm or thermal windows and doors or double-paned glass. A less expensive alternative is plastic sheeting, which can be temporarily fastened over doors and windows to prevent drafts and retain heat.

Enjoy money-saving rebates with National Fuel's Conservation Incentive Program

Save with rebates now, and save later by using less energy. As a residential or non-residential customer in National Fuel's Western New York service area, you can enjoy a number of money-saving rebates when you replace specified appliances with qualifying, energy-efficient natural gas models. For full details, visit www.NationalFuelForThought.com and click on "Get Cash Rebates" in the gray menu area on the right. Remember, when you conserve natural gas, you not only save money, you reduce emissions further, making the air cleaner for everyone.

Discover more ways to save.

Visit the following websites for more information on forecasted energy prices, detailed home energy conservation strategies and energy-efficient home improvement materials:

- www.aga.org: The American Gas Association is a valuable resource for understanding the benefits and availability of clean, safe, reliable natural gas.
- www.ase.org: The Alliance to Save Energy regularly posts information for consumers to help them save money, increase comfort and reduce pollution through energy efficiency.
- www.energysavers.gov: The Department of Energy offers additional information on general energy conservation tips.
- www.getenergysmart.org: The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority offers energy-saving tips and information on selecting a contractor for your energy upgrades.

FOR NATURAL GAS EMERGENCIES

Call **1-800-444-3130**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



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Buffalo area: **716-686-6123** All other areas: **1-800-365-3234**