



Follow These 6 Tips to Save Energy This Fall



It's inevitable. The heat and humidity of summer will be overcome with the cooler temperatures of fall before you know it. Don't be caught off guard, and follow these tips to save energy this fall:

1. Keep your thermostat at or below 68 degrees.

The Department of Energy suggests turning back your thermostat 7 to 10 degrees for 8 hours a day to save up to 10% on heating costs.



2. Check for cracks, leaks, and drafts.

Check all your doors and windows for air leakage. If your front or back door has space between it and the floor, add weather stripping to the bottom or use caulk to seal the gap to keep heat from escaping and prevent your heater from running overtime.



3. Close your fireplace damper when not in use.

When the damper is open, and there isn't a fire burning, warm air can escape through the chimney. Also, consider purchasing energy-efficient fireplace grates that draw cool air into the fireplace while pushing warm air back into your room.



4. Allow light and heat from windows to enter your home.

In the morning, open the blinds or curtains of south-facing windows, allowing the sun to warm the room. In the evening, close them to lock in the free heat. In areas where your home doesn't get much sun, keep your curtains and blinds closed to trap in the heat.

5. Reverse the spin of ceiling fans.

Reversing the direction of your ceiling fans clockwise will push warm air back down (remember, warm air rises). It will also redistribute the warm air from your heating system, making sure pockets of cold air don't settle in the corners of each room.



6. Replace your HVAC filter.

If you don't replace your air filter, it clogs up from excess dust, reducing airflow, or increasing resistance, which puts strain on your heating and cooling system. Check your filter once a month and replace it as necessary.