



Here are **16** simple, cost-effective ideas in which **going green can save you money**. These small investments in energy conservation can pay big dividends.

1. **Sealing cooling and heating ducts** with duct wrap or mastic sealant can save up to **25%** on your energy bill.
2. **Fix plumbing leaks**. A single drippy faucet can waste **212 gallons of water a month**.
3. **Insulate your hot water heater**. Doing so can cut your home's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and **save you around 4% to 9%** in water heating costs. You also **reduce standby heat costs by 25%-45%**. To see if you need to insulate, touch your heater. If it's warm to the touch, it needs additional insulation.
4. **Replace shower heads with low-flow heads and replace faucets or just the aerators**. Low-flow shower heads can save you **between 10% to 16% of water heating costs** and reduce your water usage by **20,000 gallons** per year.
5. **Install low flow toilets**. This will save you **3.5 gallons** per flush.
6. **Install ceiling fans**. This will **cut air conditioning costs by 40%** in summer. Alternatively, in the winter, these ceiling fans work to circulate warm air from the ceiling back down to the floor to **save heating cost**.
7. **Plug overlooked energy leaks around the house!** Use low VOC caulk and foam strips around windows and door frames that leak air. Add door sweeps and door shoe gaskets. A 1/8" space around your door is like having a brick size hole in your wall. Imagine one of these for every door in the house! **Did you know that your light switches can be an overlooked source of air leaks?** Hold a wet hand in front of a light switch plate or outlet and if you feel air, you have a leak. Installing foam gaskets behind all the light switches and outlets can stop these energy leaks.
8. **Insulate**. For maximum energy efficiency, your home should be properly insulated from the roof down to its foundations.
9. **Install a hot water heater timer** if you have an electric water heater which can turn hot water off at night and on again in the morning.

10. **Replace your light bulbs.** Energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs last 8 to 12 times longer than incandescent. Just **one bulb alone can save at least \$30 in electric bills** over its lifespan and reduce greenhouse emissions from power plants. Just 5 bulbs could **save you 50% of your annual lighting bill.**
11. **Replace old windows** with new high performance dual pane windows with low-e coatings. Or self-adhesive reflective film on the windows. These films **reduce air conditioning bills.** In addition, reflective film can eliminate interior upholstery fading by blocking harmful UV rays.
12. **Insulating your hot water pipes.** Not only does this raise the temperature with a lower water temperature setting, you also conserve water since you don't have to wait as long for warm water whenever you turn on a faucet or a shower! Or **install a hot water recirculating pump** and get almost **instant hot water** every time you take a shower.
13. **Install outdoor solar lighting.** It's easy to install and virtually maintenance free. Best of all, it provides **free electricity.**
14. **Install shades, drapes, awnings or sunscreens** to block light on hot sunny days and **keep cooling costs down.** In colder times, closing these drapes can retain warm air. This may seem like an old-fashioned and low tech, but it's surprisingly effective and time-tested tactic.
15. **Add lighting controls and timers.** Motion detectors outside can increase security and decrease energy expenditure. Timers can be set to turn lights off and on and predetermined times. **This is an easy energy saver.**
16. **Reuse and Recycle.** How about donating perfectly good cabinets, sinks and other appliances to Habitat for Humanity Reuse store? **Get a tax write-off,** help someone else in need and save room in the landfill – a win win situation. Our customer service representatives can connect you with Habitat, with whom we have a relationship.

**In many cases, you will save more on your energy bill by making these changes than you will spend on making them!**

**According to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, households can save 20%-30% on energy bills by implementing these improvements. Ask your technician or call us at 801-748-0101 for service.**