



# Energy Saving Tips

[PACEcleanenergy.org/efficiencytips](http://PACEcleanenergy.org/efficiencytips)

## Unplug That 2nd Fridge

Taking an older, large refrigerator out of use could save \$300 or more annually.

## Get a Home Energy Assessment

An energy assessment from Energize CT costs just \$50 (or \$0 for income eligible) and saves an average of \$180 a year on energy bills.

## Replace Incandescent Holiday Lights

Decking the house with lights? Swapping incandescents for LEDs could save hundreds over the holidays.

## Inflate Those Tires

You can improve your gas mileage by 0.6% on avg—up to 3% in some cases—by keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressure saving up to \$70/yr.

## Close the Curtains

Up to 30% of a home's heating energy can be lost through windows. Closing the window treatment at night in winter can save up to 10%.

## Turn Down That Thermostat

Each degree is the equivalent of 1% energy savings. Turning the thermostat down 5 degrees can equal \$100 annual fuel bill decrease.

## Set Your Water Heater to 120° F

Hot water heaters use up to 17% of a home's energy. By turning the temperature down to 120°F, you can save 4 to 22% of the energy needed to heat your water.

## Install Solar Panels

Leased or purchased solar panels save on electricity costs. 30% federal tax credits are available for purchased panels.

## Invest in a Water Softener

Hard water can damage heating and plumbing systems of your home. Even small deposits can reduce efficiency by up to 12%.

## Green Your Shopping and Travel

Replacing shopping therapy and resorts in favor of outdoor activities and parks saves money and reduces your carbon footprint.

## Check Your Insulation

Insulation can reduce heating and cooling bills by 15% or more. The Energize CT program offers rebates of \$1.70/square foot for insulation.

## Consider an Induction Stove

Induction cooktops are the most efficient on the market with much faster times to boil. They are three times more efficient than gas stovetops.

## Learn About IRA Savings

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provides thousands of dollars in incentives for efficiency measures and clean energy technologies.

## Bring Back the Rake

Replacing your leaf blower with a rake, not only saves money, but reduces air pollution, provides exercise, and may improve neighbor relations.

## Buy a Smart Thermostat

Smart thermostats help optimize home comfort, can save up to 10% on heating bills and allow for enrollment in utility demand response programs.

## Make Your Next Car an EV

EVs are more efficient, have no tailpipe emissions, a lower cost of ownership, and require less maintenance. IRA incentives are available.

### Look Into Heat Pumps

Homes with central AC, electric resistance heat, or an oil or gas system nearing the end of its life are particularly good candidates for heat pumps.

### Unplug

Electronic devices continue to draw power even when not in use. Unplugging this “phantom load” can save as much as \$200 annually.

### Go or Stay Virtual

Stick with virtual mode for at least part of your work week and for other meetings. Pair resulting vehicle fuel savings with smart energy choices at home.

### Join Your Local Sustainability Group

The work of local sustainability groups helps towns save thousands of dollars and prevents thousands of tons of greenhouse gasses from being emitted.

### Ensure That All Bulbs Are LEDs

Switching ten 60-watt incandescent bulbs for the equivalent LEDs could save \$300 or more a year.

### Reduce Water Use

Municipal water systems are big energy users. Help with actions such as fixing leaks, replacing old toilets and washers, and installing low flow shower heads.

### Regular Appliance Maintenance

Clean the filters on your HVAC equipment, vacuum the coils on the refrigerator, and perform other such appliance maintenance routinely.

### Run Full Loads in Cold Water

90% of the energy used by a washer is to heat the water. Washing in cold water can significantly lower your machine’s energy use.

### Turn the Computer Off

Turn off your computer at night or when not using it for more than a few hours. Modern computers are not damaged by turning them on and off.

### Delete Old Digital Files and Emails

Worldwide, the storage of digital data consumes enormous amounts of energy. Regularly delete unneeded files, including emails.

### Compost Lawn and Food Waste

Composting instead of landfilling this organic material has many advantages, including a reduction of methane released from landfills.

### Use the Toaster Oven

Cooking a meal in a toaster oven can save over 50% of the energy compared with cooking the same meal in a conventional electric oven.

### Replace Single Pane Windows

Heat gain and heat loss through windows are responsible for 25%–30% of residential heating and cooling energy use.

### Learn About Upcoming Legislation

Groups and individuals working towards the transition to 100% clean energy in Connecticut are doing important work. Stay informed and join in.

### Pledge to Reduce Energy Use

Pledge to reduce your carbon footprint and energy use this year. Try taking one significant step each month.



For more details and tips, visit:

**[PACEcleanenergy.org/efficiencytips](http://PACEcleanenergy.org/efficiencytips)**