

ActOnEnergy®

Are you doing everything you can to conserve energy?

This handy energy-efficiency checklist will help you identify ways to use less energy.

INSIDE YOUR HOME . . .

Living Room

LIGHTING

- Use ENERGY STAR® certified fixtures and CFL bulbs.
- Keep drapes open during the winter daylight hours and close window shades and drapes in summer daylight hours.
- Use a smart power strip to stop phantom power with home entertainment systems.

INSULATION AND AIR FLOW

- Ensure all air registers are clear of furniture.
- Replace your screens with storm windows.
- Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doorframes.
- Use caulk or spray foam to seal any holes where pipes or TV/cable wires and vents enter or exit your home.

Bedrooms

1 2 3 4 (Number of bedrooms)

LIGHTING

- Use ENERGY STAR® certified fixtures and CFL bulbs.

INSULATION AND AIR FLOW

- Replace your screens with storm windows.
- Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doorframes.
- Clear any obstructions from air registers and vents.

Attic

Insulation and Air Flow

- Do not block attic vents.
- Weatherstrip and insulate.
- Air seal to prevent air leakage from your home to your attic.
- Insulate to a minimum R38. Heat with an Ameren Illinois fuel? There is an incentive to help you insulate!

Ducts

- Seal duct connections and seams with duct sealant.
- Wrap ducts in insulation (R-6 to R-8 is recommended).
- Cover ducts with blown insulation.

Chimney

- Seal hidden air leaks.
- Cover chimney and furnace flue gaps with metal flashing.
- Caulk small flue gaps with high-temperature caulk.

Plumbing Stack

- Seal small gaps with caulk.
 - Seal holes up to three inches in diameter with spray foam.
 - Cover spaces larger than three inches with a piece of foam board and seal with spray foam.
 - Get an ActOnEnergy home energy audit for energy efficiency recommendations.
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Kitchen

LIGHTING

- Use ENERGY STAR® certified fixtures and CFL bulbs.

INSULATION AND AIR FLOW

- Clear any obstructions from air registers or floor vents.
- Replace your screens with storm windows.
- Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doorframes.

APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONICS

- Replace your old refrigerator or freezer with an ENERGY STAR® certified model.
- Check door gaskets on your refrigerator and freezer by closing the door on a dollar bill. If the bill can be easily pulled from the closed door, you should replace the gasket.
- Vacuum the coils on your refrigerator and freezer units at least every three months.



Bathroom

LIGHTING

- Use ENERGY STAR® certified fixtures and CFL bulbs.

INSULATION AND AIR FLOW

- Replace your screens with storm windows.
 - Install a properly sized ENERGY STAR® certified ventilation fan.
 - Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doorframes.
 - Cover and seal all holes in the plumbing, ductwork, or electrical runs.
 - Use your bath fan to remove excess moisture.
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Dining Room

LIGHTING

- Use ENERGY STAR® certified fixtures and CFL bulbs.

INSULATION AND AIR FLOW

- Clear any obstructions from air registers or floor vents.
- Caulk door frames and weatherstrip around windows and doorframes.
- Replace your sliding door with an ENERGY STAR® certified door.
- Seal any voids around your outlets with an inexpensive outlet gasket.

HEATING AND COOLING

- Install a programmable thermostat.

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Home Office

LIGHTING

- Use ENERGY STAR® certified fixtures and CFL bulbs.

INSULATION AND AIR FLOW

- Clear any obstruction from air registers and vents.
- Seal holes around outlets.

APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONICS

- Enable power management features on your computer and monitor.
- Use a smart power strip to prevent phantom power from increasing your energy bill.

Heating and Cooling

- Use a dehumidifier to remove excess moisture (humidity).
- Set your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees or lower.
- Check your system's air filter once a month and replace it at least every three months.
- Schedule a pre-season check-up of your HVAC system by a licensed contractor in the spring and fall.
- Replace your furnace if it is more than 15 years old, or you're A/C unit if it is more than 12 years old.
- If your system is too large or too small, you will have inadequate heating and cooling. An HVAC contractor will use Manual J specifications for proper sizing.
- Purchase an air conditioner of the proper size to fit your needs.
- Keep all filters and fans clean for efficient operation.
- If your system is old, have a plan in place for replacement, so you are ready if it stops working.



OUTSIDE YOUR HOME . . .

Landscaping

- Plant shrubs, bushes and vines next to your home to create dead air spaces.
- Plant tall growing trees on the south side to shield your home from summertime sun.
- Plant dense, low-lying trees and shrubbery on the north and northeast sides of your home to help protect your home against wind chill.
- Plant the right tree in the right place.
- Avoid potential tree and wire conflicts as the tree matures.
- Call JULIE before you dig at 811 or 800.892.0123.

Porch Lights

- Install ENERGY STAR® certified compact light bulbs (CFLs).
- Install a new ENERGY STAR® certified outdoor fixture.
- Seal up air leaks and add insulation.

EVERYDAY SAVINGS TIPS . . .

In addition to these home upgrades, don't forget to incorporate these best practice tips in your daily routine:

General tips for around the house

- Turn off your lights when leaving a room.
- Use ceiling fans to circulate air in the room only when home.
- Unplug any battery chargers or power adapters when not in use.
- Turn off your TV and other electronics when not being used.

- Use a smart power strip as a central "turn off" point.
- Purchase ENERGY STAR® certified appliances/electronics.
- Replace your windows with ENERGY STAR® certified models.
- Close the flue damper tightly when not in use.
- Keep your refrigerator/freezer as full as possible without over packing to allow air flow.
- Recycle your second fridge or freezer through the ActOnEnergy program—get \$50 and save up to \$100 per year in electricity.
- Have a home energy audit completed, go to ActOnEnergy.com for more information. For qualifying customers there are air sealing and insulation incentives.

Bathroom

- Run your fan for 15 minutes after showering.
- Take a 10-minute shower rather than a bath.

Kitchen

- Scrape dishes instead of rinsing them before loading in the dishwasher.
- Run the dishwasher only when full and use the air-dry option if available.
- Use the right-sized pot on stove burners.
- Cover pots and pans to keep heat in.
- Use your microwave or toaster oven to reheat or cook small portions.
- Use the microwave instead of an electric oven.
- Use cold water when operating your food/waste disposal.

Laundry

- Use the cold water setting on your washer for most loads.
- Wash a load of laundry only when you have a full load.
- Don't over-dry your clothes.
- Dry full loads, or reduce drying time for partial loads.
- Place a dry towel in the dryer with each load of wet clothes.
- Clean the dryer's lint filter after each load.
- Use an outdoor clothes line for ultimate energy savings!

Be sure to visit ActOnEnergy.com for more information.

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