

Energy Efficiency *around the home*

The environment is our responsibility, so here are our tips for keeping your household energy-friendly.

Kitchen

- Fill your kettle with cold water.
- Rinse dishes with cold water.
- Wash lots of dishes at once, making sure to use just enough hot water to do the job properly.
- Wait until your dishwasher is full before doing a wash.
- Put your fridge and freezer far from any heat sources like ovens, heaters or sunlight.
- Defrost your freezer two or three times a year to keep it running efficiently.
- Try leaving some space in your fridge to let the cool air circulate.
- Wait for food to cool down before you put it in the fridge, or the temperature will rise inside.
- Let your food defrost naturally instead of using the microwave.

Living/Dining

- Turning the gaming console off at the wall instead of pressing the power button can save approximately \$160 per year on the electricity bill.
- Don't leave your electronic devices charging overnight.
- Make sure that any open or unused fireplaces are blocked to stop cool air escaping up the chimney in summer.
- Shade north, west and east windows with external shading such as plants or blinds.

Bedroom

- Turn off lights in rooms that aren't being used.
- Make sure lights and lamp shades are clean to ensure you get the maximum brightness.
- Use the correct strength bulb for your lighting needs. 40 watts is enough for desk and bedside lamps.
- Use light-shades with white linings - they reflect more light.
- Use LED light bulbs as they could reduce your lights' energy consumption by up to 80%.
- Dress your windows with curtains or blinds that are a snug fit to keep the cool air in during summer. Up to 40% of cool air can escape through windows.

Bathroom/Laundry

- Wash your clothes in cold water and you could save approximately \$115 a year.
- Do your laundry in fewer, larger loads.
- Have shorter showers.
- Check your hot water thermostat is set between 55-60°C.
- Dry your washing outside on the line as often as you can.
- Don't overload your dryer.
- Make sure the filter is clean on your dryer before you do a load.
- Wash your clothes in cold water. About 80% of energy in a warm wash is associated with heating water.