

Saving electricity is easy, just follow these steps and begin saving

Refrigerator

- ✓ Keep the refrigerator away from heat sources, such as the oven or dishwasher, and out of direct sunlight.
- ✓ Clean the condenser coils at least once a year. Dust and dirt on the coils or at the bottom of the refrigerator makes it work harder and reduces its efficiency.
- ✓ Defrost as necessary. And keep the fresh food compartment between 37 degrees to 40 degrees. Colder settings are unnecessary and wasteful.
- ✓ Rethink that old spare refrigerator or freezer...they could be costing you as much as \$200 per year.

Stove

- ✓ Consider using a pressure cooker for foods that require a long cooking time.
- ✓ Cook with lids on the pans. Without a lid, cooking spaghetti can use three times as much energy.
- ✓ For gas burners, the flames should be blue. If the flame is yellowish, it may not be operating efficiently.
- ✓ Use a microwave when possible, it can use up to 70% less energy than a stove.

Washer/Dryer

- ✓ Use a clothesline as much as possible.
- ✓ Fill the washing machine to capacity, but don't overload.
- ✓ Use cold water whenever possible.
- ✓ Clean the lint filter after every load to improve circulation.
- ✓ Periodically inspect the dryer vent to make sure that it is not blocked.

Other Suggestions

- ✓ Turn off appliances when they are not in use.
- ✓ If you have a waterbed, keep it covered to retain heat. A waterbed heater can use as much or more energy than a refrigerator.

REACH and You: Saving Electricity



Why use electricity more efficiently?

- ◆ It saves you money.
- ◆ To help reduce pollution.
- ◆ To extend our non-renewable energy resources.

Let's See How You Can Save

Do you have an old refrigerator, or do you use more than one refrigerator? Y N

Do you let appliances run when you are not there? Y N

Do you wash your clothes in cold water? Y N

Do you clean the condenser coils on the refrigerator? Y N

Have you checked the refrigerator and freezer temperatures? Y N

Do you use a clothesline when possible? Y N

Do you have an extra freezer? Y N

Where is My Electricity Going?

BASIC FACTS

Appliances account for about 20% of your home energy consumption.

About 80% - 85% of the energy used for washing clothes is for heating the water.

Depending on the size, age, and efficiency, a refrigerator can cost more than \$200 a year to operate.

