



CITY OF LLANO

301 W. MAIN, LLANO, TEXAS 78643

325-247-4158

FAX 325-247-4150

www.llanotx.com



ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

SPRING/SUMMER ENERGY SAVING TIPS:

To help improve your energy bills, a customer may do his/her own home energy audit of their home by simply but diligently walking through spotting many problems that may need to be addressed.. Doing so can potential save 5 to 30% per year, and most likely your home will be more comfortable. Consider checking for air leaks, installing or adding insulation, inspecting or replacing heating and cooling equipment, and lighting for your energy efficiency upgrades.

AIR LEAKS

Check for indoor air leak around electrical outlets, switch plates, window frames, baseboard, fireplace dampers, attic hatches, gaps around pipes, wires, foundation seals, and doors. Check and repair or replace caulking and weather stripping and that it is applied properly, leaving no gaps or cracks.

INSULATION

Inadequate insulation level will cause you to have higher cost utility bills due to heat or cooling loss through the ceiling and walls of your home. In older homes insulation should be check for levels of insulation for the most effectiveness by adding to or replacing. It is recommended that the minimum value of insulation should be R-19 or greater for the most effectiveness. There are also many products on the market to insulate water heater, hot water pipes, ducts, vapor barrier paints, and thermal curtains.

HEATING/COOLING EQUIPMENT

Heating/cooking equipment should be inspected annually, or as recommended by the manufacturer. The filters) should be changed about once every month or more often during high usage periods. You should consider replacing your system for a more energy efficient unit if your current unit is more than fifteen years old. Inspect duct work and retape, repair, and replace when needed.

LIGHTING

Approximately ten percent of your electric bill is consumed by the lights used in your home form ceiling fixtures, lamps, and outdoor lighting. By down grading the size of the wattage of a bulb in areas where lower lighting can be used can save you dollars per year. Change from a regular light bulb to fluorescent bulb in lamps will not only save energy and your money, but can provide a softer light that's less harsh on your eyes.

FREE OR LOW COST TIPS FOR SAVING ENERGY

Add COOL to your home during the day by closing drapes to keep the sun out your home(FREE).

Your thermostat should be set at seventy-eight degrees or higher(FREE).

Place weather stripping around doors, replace broken or cracked window panes, seal windows to stop heat from entering into your home(\$10.00+).

Filters should be changed on a regular basis to ensure proper air flow for the unit and home(\$10.00).

Lower water heater temperature from high to a lower setting to not only save on utility bill but can also prevent an injury to children and adults(FREE).

Turn off lights in empty rooms(FREE).

Position your furniture in your home for optimal comfort(FREE).

(OVER)

(side 2)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCOME TAX CREDITS

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR INCOME TAX CREDITS UP TO \$500 FOR INSTALLING CERTAIN ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME IMPROVEMENTS. YOU CAN CLAIM THESE CREDIT ON YOUR 2006 OR 2007 INCOME TAX RETURN FOR INSTALLING ELIGIBLE INSULATION, EXTERIOR WINDOWS AND DOORS, METAL ROOF, WATER HEATERS, AND HEATING AND COOLING EQUIPMENT. PRODUCTS OR MATERIALS MUST BE INSTALLED BETWEEN JAN. 1, 2006 AND DEC. 31, 2007. TO RECEIVE THE INCOME TAX CREDITS YOU SHOULD 1. SAVE RECEIPTS AND A COPY OF THE MANUFACTURER'S CERTIFICATION OR ENERGY STAR LABEL FOR WINDOWS, 2. FILE THE APPROPRIATE IRS FORM WITH OUR INCOME TAXES, AND 3. CONSULT WITH YOUR TAX ADVISOR OR THE IRS FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AND SPECIFICATIONS.



LINKS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

www.texaswise.com

www.lcra.org

www.homeenergysaver.lbl.gov

www.energyguide.com

www.sfwmd.gov

www.waterinfo.org

www.eere.energy.gov.com

www.atmosenergy.com

www.energystar.gov

www.earth911.org



WATER CONSERVATION

Our water is our most valuable resource that needs to be conserved. A small drip can become a major repair quickly and an expensive one. Maintaining repairs in a timely manner and upgrades will not only be cost saving in monetary amounts, but will also rid the annoyance of even the smallest drip. To help maintain water flow clean faucet screens free from sand and grit at each sink location on a regular basis. Inspect water lines inside cabinets, check toilets for seepages, and check outside faucets to head off unwelcome problems before they occur.

USEFUL TIPS

The use of ceiling fans or portable fans will cause the moving air to feel four to six degrees cooler.

Proper ventilation in the attic reduces temperature and prevents moisture buildup so the air conditioner does not have to work as hard.

Use the microwave rather than the oven when ever possible to keep from heating up the inside of your home.

Design your landscape to help lower your heating and cooling costs.

Keep debris and high grass away from the condenser. These obstacles block the airflow to the unit making the condenser work harder and run longer.

Use front loading washing machines: They are more energy efficient because they use less energy to heat a smaller volume of water.

Buy compact fluorescent light bulbs: They last 100,000 hours compared with Edison inspired bulbs.

Unplug phone chargers, televisions, VCRs and other electronics: According to the Department of Energy, nearly 75% of all electricity used to power electronics in the average home is consumed by products that are switched Off.

YOU THE CUSTOMER

Ultimately, you the customer can only control what your electric and water consumption will be on your utility bill. Having a conservation understanding and putting it into practice will allow you to lower your out of pocket expense for your utility bill. Simply being observant in your home how the electric and water is being used, how soon repairs are made, and how you allow your comfort zone to feel will bring you to a better understanding of the consumption on your bill.

