



CITY OF LLANO

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ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

FALL/WINTER 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 and 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 from 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. Changing 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 warmth to your home during the day by opening drapes to allow the sun to naturedly warm your home. At night close your drapes to help insulate your home from the cold weather.

Your thermostat should be set at sixty-eight degrees during the day time and fifty-five degrees at night or when away from home for a extended period of time.

Place weather stripping around doors, replace broken or cracked window panes, seal windows to stop heat from escaping and to keep the cold out.

(over)

(side 2)

Filters should be changed on a regular basis to ensure proper air flow for the unit and home.

Proper maintenance of wood stoves and fireplaces to avoid heat loss and /or carbon monoxide poisoning.

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

Planting trees and shrubs around your home will provide a windbreak to help reduce your heating bill.

Look for qualified products with the energy star when replacing appliances.

Reading the electric meter on an regular basis can will allow you to observe and help you track your kilowatts consumption.



LINKS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

www.texaswise.com

www.eere.energy.gov.com

www.lcra.org

www.atmosenergy.com

www.homeenergysaver.lbl.gov

www.energystar.gov

www.energyguide.com

www.earth911.org

www.sfwmd.gov

www.waterinfo.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 of 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.

SEWER

AS A REMINDER: YOUR WATER USAGE BETWEEN NOVEMBER 15 THROUGH FEB 15 WILL BE AVERAGE BASE ON 2000 GALLONS PER MONTH TO DETERMINE YOUR SEWER RATE FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS.

YOU THE CUSTOMER

Ultimately, you the customer can only control what your electric and water consumption will be on you utility bill. Having a conservation understanding and putting it into practice will allow you to lower your out of pocket expense for your utility bills. 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.

