

# HEATING AND COOLING TIPS

We know heating and cooling your home during the winter and summer months can take its toll -- that's why we have some easy to follow tips to help create more energy efficiency!



## Heating Tips

- Keep cold air out to save energy. Seal air leaks around pipes and any gaps around chimneys and unfinished space behind cupboards and closets.
- Let the sunshine in! For additional warmth, open drapes over windows that receive sunlight during the day. Close them at night, which can reduce heat loss from a warm room up to 10%.
- A dirty filter causes your furnace or air conditioner to work harder than necessary. Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust build up, which can lead to even bigger problems.
- Energy bills can increase during winter for a variety of reasons, like house guests, more time spent at home and shorter days and longer nights. Small actions, like turning down your thermostat, replacing old bulbs with LEDs and washing clothes in cold water can help you save.

## Cooling Tips

- Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature of your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.
- During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat (like clothes dryers and dishwashers) during the evening when it's cooler. This will minimize indoor heat during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest.
- Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause your air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

*Energy Efficiency Source: energy.gov  
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inlandpower.com  
509-747-7151



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