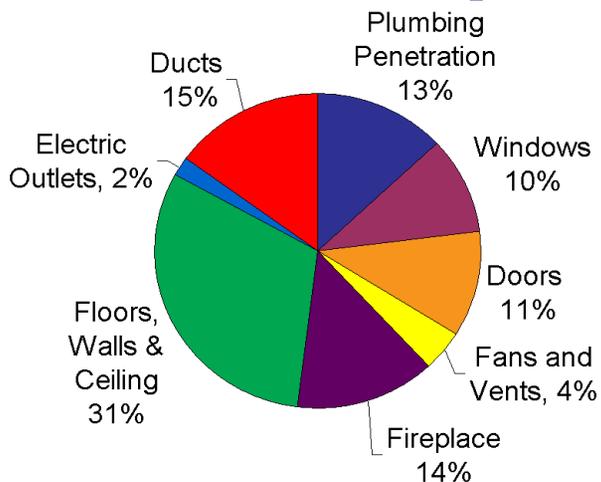


Keep Hold Of Your Air

Only 20 percent of homes built before 1980 have adequate insulation. Those built after still fall prey to the drafts and poorly sealed windows that can run up a hefty energy tab. Insulation should be applied whenever and wherever it can to keep the air that you paid to heat or cool inside your home.

How Your Air Escapes



Tips To Seal Your Home

- ▶ You can easily test for air leaks in your home. On a windy day, place a lit incense stick next to possible leak areas such as door jams and windows. If the smoke moves horizontally, you've got a leak to fix.
- ▶ Caulk or weather-strip leaky doors and windows.
- ▶ Look for dirty spots in your insulation, these usually indicate holes where air has traveled in and out of the home.
- ▶ When the fireplace is not in use, keep the damper tightly closed.

Conservation Resources

Obviously not every conservation tip could be included in this pamphlet, so here are some other resources you can use to explore conservation options in your home.

Free Online Home Energy Audit

Get a personalized list of energy-saving tips perfect for your specific Bowling Green home.
www.bgohio.org/util-business-off/

Energy Savers

The U.S. Department of Energy created this site to house a multitude of energy saving tips.
www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/

Energy Hog

Energy Hog, with a great kids area, exposes some of the biggest home energy drains.
www.energyhog.org

18 Seconds

18 Seconds puts a tangible, local face on the impact switching to CFL lighting can have.
www.18seconds.org

Energy Star

Purchasing Energy Star-recommended products is a great way to jump start home conservation.
www.energystar.gov

Energy & Money Saving Tips



Reduce Your Energy Footprint



Assist Your Community



Lower Your Monthly Bill

Brought to you by your local municipal electric system



The Greatest Hits

The best way to get started on conservation is to pursue efforts that can provide the easiest energy efficiency upgrades, like these tried and true conservation techniques:

Compact Fluorescent Bulbs

These bulbs continue to go down in price (now around \$4). They can last upwards of seven years and will more than pay for their cost over traditional incandescent bulbs in saved energy and savings seen because they so rarely need to be replaced.

Programmable Thermostat

This device can lower the temperature at night in the winter and allow the temperature to rise in the summer when you are asleep and unaware, restoring the temperature to normal as you wake up. You feel no different and your heating and cooling bill, the biggest energy drain of the home, will go down.

Fill Your Appliances

The dishwasher, clothes washer and dryer are three of the biggest energy draining appliances in a home. Typically, they use the same amount of energy no matter the load size. Fill your appliances to the brim to make full use of each machine's energy output.

The Best of the Rest

Easy tips for every room in the house

Bath	Shower	Take showers. A ten minute shower uses less water than taking a bath and the shorter the shower, the less cold water that has to be heated to replace water used.
	Vent Fan	Using an Energy Star-rated vent fan in the bathroom not only saves energy over regular fans, but also fights mold and mildew.
Basement	Washer	In addition to using full loads, another great way to conserve is by using cold water when possible. Heating water for washing is a big energy drain.
	Dryer	Over-drying can be a real waste of electricity. Use full loads or invest in a moisture-sensing dryer that automatically shuts off when clothes are sufficiently dry.
	Water Heater	Water does not need to be heated to extreme temperatures for normal use. Set your water heater to 120 degrees or lower.
	HVAC System	Heating and cooling units have air filters that need to be replaced every three months to maintain energy efficiency.
Kitchen	Refrigerator	Models made before 1993 use twice as much energy as those after. Energy Star-approved models can save \$45 to \$65 a year.
	Oven	The self-cleaning of an oven requires a lot of energy. If it must be used, do so right after cooking so that the oven does not have to be heated from scratch again.
	Range	A 6-inch pot on an 8-inch burner wastes 40 percent of the burner's heat. Use properly sized pots and pans that fit a range's burner sizes.
	Microwave	Use a microwave or toaster oven when possible to reheat small portions as these devices require less energy to operate than a stove.
	Dishwasher	Skip the drying cycle. After the rinse cycle, open the dishwasher and let the dishes dry on their own, cutting energy used by the dishwasher in half.
General	Windows	Caulk and weather-strip around windows. Drafts force heaters and air conditioners to work harder than they should, resulting in wasted energy.
	Insulation	Invest in insulation. As your home's insulation improves, the need to run heating and cooling units decreases, saving greatly on energy usage.
	Electronics	To avoid "standby power" drains, plug electronic devices that can lose power without losing programmable settings into power strips and turn the strips off when not in use.