

Fall into energy savings

• Seal all leaks around doors, windows, and electrical outlets.

Heat from your home escapes out of these cracks. By sealing these leaks, you can save up to 20% on your heating bill, and the cost of materials is typically under \$20.

• Fall is the best time to clean the chimney and get vent systems checked.

Pipes must be properly connected and there should be no signs of rust or damage.

• It's also time to remove the window air conditioners for the winter.

If they must stay in place, be sure to seal them with caulking or tape and cover them with an airtight, insulated jacket.

• If you are thinking of replacing your furnace, consider getting one that's rated 90% or higher in efficiency.

Replacing your old furnace with a new, more energy efficient one can save up to 30% of your heating costs. Remember to look for the ENERGY STAR® label.

• <u>Is your insulation up to par</u>?

For a minimal cost, you can upgrade the insulation in your exterior walls, crawlspaces, basements and attics. Insulation may come in batts or loose fill, which can be blown into place and get those hard to reach places.

• Did you know you can lose heat through your electrical outlets, light switches and lighting fixtures?

Consider installing foam gaskets behind these outlets and switches or install plastic security caps to reduce heat loss.

• If you have single-pane windows, add storm windows to cut heat loss by up to 50%.

Better still, replace single-pane windows with energy-efficient double-pane windows with inert argon gas fill, warm-edge spacers, and low-e coating.

• <u>Make sure your heating vents aren't blocked by furniture or drapes and the dampers</u> <u>are open.</u>

Vacuum out dust and pet hair from the warm air registers and the cold air returns so your furnace runs more efficiently.