



OCCA offers these energy saving tips to help you save money and natural resources.

An energy efficient home is something we should all strive for. Small steps can lighten the "footprints" we leave behind for future generations and can save money on utility bills. Implementing home energy conservation tips can make a home more energy efficient.

Make it your goal to do one energy saving step every Saturday. After a while you will have made a big difference in the comfort and cost of warming or cooling your home.

Energy Saving Tips!

1. Install a programmable thermostat for your furnace and turn down your thermostat. Set it so it goes even lower while you sleep and when you aren't home. Set thermostat no higher than 68 degrees.
2. Have an energy audit on your home: the cost goes into home improvements to make home weather-tight and possibly healthier. Call Opportunities For Otsego at 607-433-0444.

3. Fully insulating a residence generally results in up to 30 percent savings on a heating bill.
4. \$ Tip: Set up an equal payment plan to spread high winter bills over a 12-month period.
5. Turn off unnecessary lights, computers, etc. at the end of the day.
6. Buy Energy Star appliances, products, and lights when replacing worn out appliances.
7. Raise shades in the winter to let in the sun and lower shades in the summer to reduce indoor heat.
8. In summer open windows at night and close in morning to hold in cooled air.
9. Replace worn out weather stripping around exterior doors to reduce air leakage.
10. Insulate attic with at least 12 inches of fiberglass batting.
11. Turn off kitchen, bath and other ventilating fans when done. In one hour, these fans can pull a house full of warm air right out of a home.
12. Don't keep an old, inefficient refrigerator running all day and night in the garage for those few occasions. A 15-year-old refrigerator could cost up to \$80 per year to run.
13. If it gets too hot in the winter, don't open a window, turn down the thermostat.
14. Insulate hot water pipes. This will prevent heated water in the pipes from cooling down too quickly.

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