Conserving Energy in Our Homes



70 Tips on Ways to Save Energy:

Home & Water Heating

- Install a programmable thermostat
 A properly set programmable thermostat can reduce heating and cooling costs by up to 10%.
- 2. Set back thermostats by 5°C when your away from home.
- Set your heat/thermostat at 20°C when your at home and 18°C or lower overnight.
- 4. Close the flue damper on the fireplace when it's not in use. A wood burning fire place can actually draw heat out of the house unless you have glass doors or an insert.
- 5. Use area rugs on cold floors- if your feet are warm the rest of you feels warm.
- 6. Put on a sweater if you feel cold rather than simply turning up the thermostat.
- 7. Improve the insulation in your home.
- Replace my oil furnace with a high efficiency ENERGY STAR® qualified model.
 High efficiency oil-furnace systems can deliver significant energy savings.
 Financial assistance is available from the PEI Office of Energy Efficiency.
- 9. Caulk and weather strip around doors, windows and attic hatches.
- 10. Use foam gaskets behind light switch and outlet cover plates.
- 11. Avoid heating unused rooms by closing doors.
- 12. Upgrade to ENERGY STAR® doors and windows. Financial assistance is available from the PEI Office of Energy Efficiency.
- Insulate or wrap your electric hot water heater.
 Follow the manufacture's instructions or contact a professional
- 14. Lower the temperature on my water heather by 5°F but to no lower than 130°F.
- Replace your electric hot water heather with an ENERGY STAR® qualified model.

- 16. Fix the drip! Leaky faucets can add up to liters of water wasted every day.
- 17. Install a low flow showerhead. Low flow showerheads use about half as much water as a traditional showerhead. Shorten your shower for even more savings.

Lighting

- 18. Turn off the lights whenever you leave a room. Yes this does make a difference.
- 19. Replace your high-use incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR® Qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) wherever it makes sense. They use up to 75% less electricity and last up to 10 times longer.
- 20. Use task lighting Use brighter lights for tasks such as reading and dimmer lights for general lighting such as watching TV.
- 21. Install an ENERGY STAR® light fixture. These light fixtures combine high performance, attractive design, the highest levels of energy efficiency, and they only work with low energy consuming bulbs.
- 22. Dust my lamps, shades, light fixtures and bulbs regularly. A cleaner bulb is a brighter bulb.
- 23. Take advantage of daylight
 Use natural sunlight when possible and turn lights off.
- 24. Replace outdoor incandescent floodlights with compact fluorescent (CFLs) floodlights.
- 25. Replace outdoor incandescent floodlights with compact fluorescent (CFLs) floodlights.
 Place outdoor CFL floodlights in trees and other locations where they won't get covered by snow.
- 26. Install motion sensors to turn off lights automatically.
 Make sure to use the right light bulb- most CFLs do not work well with sensors or photocells.

27. Use LED (light emitting diode) holiday lights.

Traditional incandescent lights use 90% more energy.

Appliances

- 28. Wash and rinse laundry in cold water
- 29. Wash only full loads of laundry If you must wash small loads match the water level to the size of your load.
- 30. Purchase an ENERGY STAR® qualified front loading washer. They use 40% less water and 50% less energy than top-loading models.
- 31. Install a clothes line or use an indoor clothes rack.
- 32. Dry full loads of clothes only and don't overload the dryer.
- 33. Wring your clothes out well before putting them in the dryer.
- 34. Use the automatic sensor in your dryer.
 Over-drying not only uses more electricity but also increases shrinkage and wrinkles.
- 35. Dry consecutive loads to take advantage of retained heat in the dryer.
- 36. Use the energy or water saving features on your dishwasher.
- 37. Use the energy or water saving features on your dishwasher.
- 38. Check and clean dishwasher drains to ensure efficient operation.
- Purchase an ENERGY STAR® qualified dishwasher.
 ENERGY STAR® qualified models use at least 40 % less energy than other models.
- 40. Right-size your refrigerator Even an energy-efficient model can't give you maximum savings if it's too big for your needs.
- 41. Make sure your refrigerator and freezer doors seal well.
- 42. Get rid of your second fridge Don't keep that old, inefficient refrigerator running in the basement of occasional refreshments. It could cost you \$150 or more per year in electricity.
- 43. Allow hot food to cool before placing it in my refrigerator.

- 44. Vacuum your refrigerator coils to keep them efficient.
- 45. Don't overfill your refrigerator. This blocks air circulation and makes your refrigerator work harder and less efficiently.
- 46. Decide what you want before you open the refrigerator door.
- 47. Replace your old refrigerator with an ENERGY STAR® model. A new ENERGY STAR® refrigerator uses one-third of the energy of a 1970s model.
- 48. Set the temperature inside your freezer to -18°C (0°F).
- 49. Replace your old freezer with an ENERGY STAR® chest model. Chest freezers are 10-25% more efficient than upright models.
- 50. Thaw frozen foods before cooking or baking.
- 51. Opt for an electric frying pan instead of a range top.
- 52. Use pots with tight fitting lids Your food will cook faster.
- 53. Keep your oven and stove elements and reflectors clean.
- 54. Use the smallest pot and burner needed for the job.
- 55. Use the oven light to check on your food instead of opening the door.
- 56. Use an automatic shut-off kettle.
- 57. Turn off the burner or oven when your food is almost cooked. Existing heat will finish the cooking for you.
- 58. Use the oven's self-cleaning option after cooking. You can take advantage of the existing heat.
- 59. Avoid preheating. Unless you are baking, preheating is not necessary.
- Install a convection oven.
 Not only do these ovens cook more evenly, but they also cook faster.

- 61. Fight phantom load-unplug electronics that draw power even when they're turned off.
 - This includes TVs, cable TV boxes, microwave ovens and any items using "power cubes" (such as hand held vacuums and baby monitors)
- 62. Turn off the monitor if you're not going to use your computer for more then 10 minutes.
- 63. Turn off both the monitor and CPU if you're not going to use your computer for more than 2 hours.
- 64. Turn off your screen saver It doesn't save energy or your computer!
- 65. Enable your computer's power saving features.
- 66. Use power bars with on/off switches, automatic shutoff or integrated timers.
- 67. Replace your desktop computer with a laptop.

 Laptops use up to 90% less energy than a desktop computer. Laptops require only 15 watts of power, and have extensive power management features.
- 68. Pull the plug on battery chargers after charging is complete. Laptops, cell phones and digital cameras always draw power if they're plugged in.
- 69. Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when shopping for a new computer, TV or electronic device.
- 68. Teach your children good energy conservation habits. Habits are formed early, so set a good example
- 69. Be a role model for good conservation. You have the power to influence colleagues, friends, and family.
- 70. Keep track of how much electricity you use each month.
 This is the best way to see the impact of your energy saving actions.

Appliance Usage and Costs	Hours/Month	kWh/Month	\$/Month
Kitchen			
Dishwasher Freezer	20	44 36	\$6.60 \$5.40
Microwave Range Refrigerator (> 10 years old) (ENERGY STAR®)	10 20	64 80 48	\$9.60 \$12.00 \$7.20
Laundry			
Dryer Washer	24 24	120 45	\$18.00 \$6.75
Heating and Cooling			
Air Conditioner Air Exchanger Dehumidifier Electric Fireplace Electric Water Heater Furnace	180 360 720 180	180 72 432 270 450	\$27.00 \$10.80 \$64.80 \$40.50 \$67.50
Pump/Fan Space Heater	360 60	100 90	\$15.00 \$13.50
Entertainment			
Computer Desktop Laptop TV 42" LCD 42" Plasma Gaming Play Station 3 Xbox 360 Wii	60 60 180 180 60 60	16 2 34 46 12 11	\$2.40 \$0.30 \$5.10 \$6.90 \$1.80 \$1.65 \$0.15
Other			
Block Heater Hot tub Pool Pump Sump Pump	120 180 720 15	72 27 720 11	\$10.80 \$40.50 \$180.00 \$1.65

Energy Saving Quiz

True/False

- 1. In order to save energy your heat/thermostat should be at 20°C during the night or when you're away from home.
- 2. Leaky facets can add up to liters of wasted water.
- 3. Low flow showerheads use half as much water than a traditional showerhead.
- 4. Compact fluorescent light bulbs use 10% less electricity than a traditional light bulb.
- 5. Traditional holiday lights use 90% more energy than LED holiday lights.
- 6. Top loading washing machines are more efficient than front-loading washers.
- 7. Preheating your oven is always necessary.
- 8. Laptops use 90% less energy than a desktop computer.
- 9. Screen savers save energy.
- 10. We can all do our part in conserving some energy at home.

Answers

- 1. False, your thermostat should be set at 18°C or lower at night or when not at home.
- 2. True
- 3. True
- 4. False, CFLs use 75% less electricity than traditional lights.
- 5. True
- 6. False, front loading washers use less energy than top-loading models.
- 7. False, preheating your oven is only necessary when baking.
- 8. True
- 9. False, screensavers to do not save energy.
- 10. TRUE!!!