

# Your Home's Top Five

While most homeowners would like to be more energy efficient and save money, often it feels overwhelming because many don't know where to start.

First, let's identify the most significant energy users. The top five energy users in the average home are space cooling, space heating, water heating, lighting and refrigeration.

How can the average family use less energy and lower their utility bill while maintaining their daily energy needs?

## Adjust the Temperature

Together, home heating and cooling take the biggest bite out of your energy budget. On the bright side, you can save money by taking a few simple steps.

- During cold weather, set your thermostat to 68 F.
- During warm weather, the recommended indoor temperature is 78 F.
- Clean or replace your HVAC system's air filter regularly.
- Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doors. Install a smart thermostat. Some units can learn your schedule and adjust the temperature accordingly.

## Shine the Light on Savings

Traditional 60-watt incandescent lightbulbs are energy wasters.



**Controlling your thermostat is a key to energy efficiency and savings.**  
PHOTO COURTESY OF CONSUMERS ENERGY

Today's LED bulbs are cheap and only use 9 to 12 watts of energy an hour. And, don't forget to turn lights off in unoccupied rooms.

## Water Heating Efficiency

Do you have an older water heater? It pays to wrap it with an insulating blanket. For additional savings, insulate exposed hot water lines and drain 1 to 2 gallons of water from the bottom of your tank annually to prevent sediment buildup.

**KPUD makes it possible for our youth to keep practicing long after the sun goes down.**



Thank you for submitting your POWERful photos. Winners will be recognized during Public Power Week in October.

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