

TOP 10 COLD WEATHER ENERGY TIPS



brought to you by
ENERGY OUTREACH
Colorado
Helping Coloradans afford home energy

Save money while staying warm and cozy during Colorado's frosty winter months by practicing these cold weather home energy tips.

1

Keep the heat in and the cold out of your home by banishing drafty air leaks. Use caulk and foam sealant to close cracks and gaps around leaky door and window frames, as well as where plumbing, ducting and electrical wiring come through walls.

2

Stop throwing money out the window by placing a heavy duty, clear plastic sheet inside window frames.

3

Open window coverings on west and south-facing windows during the day to take advantage of Colorado's free solar power.

4

Is a sweater in order? For every one degree you lower your thermostat, you save about 2% on your heating bill. Keep your thermostat around 68 degrees, health permitting.

5

Better yet, install a programmable thermostat to automatically lower the temperature several degrees while you're asleep or away, and save up to 10 percent more in heating costs.



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To keep warm air from going up your chimney, check that the seal on the fireplace flue damper is tight and make sure it is closed unless a fire is burning.

7

Heating water amounts to about 18 percent of your energy use, so turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120 degrees) and wash clothes in cold water.

8

To use less electricity, set your refrigerator temperature between 37 and 40 degrees and your freezer at 0 degrees. Switch to LED light bulbs and unplug appliances and electronics when not in use.

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If you or someone you know needs help paying a home energy bill, call toll-free 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435) or go to EnergyOutreach.org for information.

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And, if you or someone you know is left out in the cold because your furnace doesn't work and you can't afford to fix it, call toll-free 1-855-469-4328 to contact our Crisis Intervention Program.

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