



Now that you know about Home Energy Solutions ...

What changes are you going to make?

Use the check list below to help you with your home energy audit.

Home Energy Audit Check List to Curb Climate Change

Summer (7% of household energy is used for cooling)

- Open windows and shades in the cool night time hours and close them during the day to block out direct sun.
- Cook outside or with a microwave instead of a stove. Save money and improve comfort.
- Use a whole house fan, room fans or ceiling fans instead of air-conditioning.
- Set your thermostat to 78°F or higher.
- When you turn on the air conditioning, decrease the temperature incrementally rather than turning it to a very cold setting immediately.
- Use a programmable thermostat for central air.
- Turn off the air conditioner when no one is home.
- Use a timer for room air conditioners.
- Clean air conditioner filters every month and clean outdoor fans annually. Before summer season arrives, use a hose to remove dirt and leaves.
- Keep your cooling system well tuned. Have it professionally maintained and ask about improving the energy efficiency.

Laundry

- Dry clothes on a clothesline instead of in a dryer.
- Clean the dryer lint trap after each load. Clothes dry faster and you reduce risk of fire.
- Wash clothes in cold water.

Lighting

- Use compact fluorescent bulbs, especially in your most used fixtures and lamps.
- Use photo-eye and timer fixtures or timers on outdoor lights.
- Turn off lights when not in use.

Water Heating

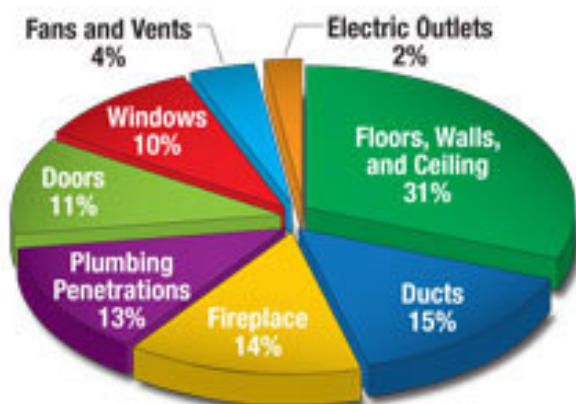
- Set water heater to 120°F, this saves money and prevents scalding.
- Insulate pre-1990 water heaters, especially electric heaters.
- Install a low-flow showerhead to save your water and heating costs.



Winter (30% of household energy is used for heating)

- Lower the thermostat at night and when you're away (55°F lowest setting).
- Check furnace filter monthly and replace as needed to maintain furnace efficiency.
- Seal around sewer vent pipe in basement and attic to keep in heated air.
- Close fireplace damper after fire is out to stop drafts and save money.
- Have your gas furnace tuned up at least every other year.
- Let the sun in during the day to reduce heating costs.
- Close drapes and shades at night to keep the heat in, save money and improve comfort.
- Wear slippers and sweaters at home in the winter, and keep afghans or blankets on your couch for friends and family.
- Clean and clear space around radiators, registers, and cold-air returns.
- Use "draft stoppers" to block drafts under your doors. You can use a towel, rug, or blanket or make one yourself.
- At the end of summer remove, clean and store window air conditioning units. If this isn't possible, cover it with a thick layer of fiberglass insulation and seal with plastic sheeting and waterproof tape to keep moisture out.
- Outfit your radiator with a heat reflector. This is a thin metal sheet that fits behind the radiator, to reflect heat away from the wall and into the room.
- Reduce drafts behind light switches and electrical outlets with childproof caps and foam plates. These foam plates are easy to install with a screwdriver and are very low cost.
- Install a low-flow showerhead; saves on water and heating costs.

Breakdown of Where Homes Waste Energy



For more information about the Cool Cities campaign visit www.coolcities.us.

For questions about the Home Energy Solutions power point or other materials contact cool.cities@sierraclub.org.