

Saving Energy, Saving Money: Energy Tips for Residents in the 60th Senate District

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Don't be left out in the old with high heating bills:

Lower the thermostat

- -- For every one degree you set back your thermostat, you can save 1 to 3 percent on your annual heating bill.
- -- Turn down your thermostat when you leave your house for two or more hours. It takes less energy to warm a cool house than to maintain a higher temperature all day and night.
- -- An automatic setback thermostat can cut heating costs by raising and lowering the temperature at preset times.

Keep out the cold

-- Check for insulation in your attic, walls, ceiling and floors, and install more if possible.

- -- Inexpensive weather-stripping around doors and windows can stop cold drafts.
- -- Replace cracked windows and use easy-to-install storm window kits to keep out breezes.
- -- Close your curtains at night to keep warm air inside.

Conserve energy

- -- Turn off lights in empty rooms.
- -- Shut off heat to unused rooms.
- -- Run major appliances (washers, dryers, dishwashers, pool motors) before 10 a.m. and after 9 p.m.
- -- Look for the ENERGY STAR label when shopping for appliances to assure the most energy efficient products.
- -- If your furnace is over 10 years old, replace it with an ENERGY STAR approved unit to save up to 30% in energy costs.