



Economic Development and Retail Services Department

March 20, 2009

Homeowners - Save \$500 on Your Energy Dollars; get involved in the energy efficiency of your homes. Here's how you can find \$500 dollars in annual energy savings for the average home, in only five different rooms of the house:

1. Save \$215 Energy Dollars annually in the living room.

Replace your five most frequently-used incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs for a savings of \$65 dollars each year. CFL bulbs use 75percent less energy and can last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs.

In addition, install an Energy Star qualified programmable thermostat on your heating and cooling system, which can help control the temperature while you're away from home, or at night when you're sleeping. When used properly, these thermostats can save as much as \$150 dollars per year in energy costs.

Go to BPU's Web site at http://www.bpu.com/customer_service/index.jsp?zone=residential and take the Change a Light – Take a Pledge Today!

2. Save \$270 Energy Dollars annually in the bathroom.

Replace your existing shower head with a new 2.5 gallon-per-minute shower head. The new water efficient shower head coupled with a 10 minute shower will save five gallons of water over a bath and up to \$145 dollars each year on energy costs used to heat the water.

In addition, check and replace the flapper valve in your toilet; these valves have a tendency to leak over a period of time with water just literally going down the drain. When they begin to leak they can quickly let 2,000 gallons a month of water go down the drain at a cost of \$125 dollars per year.

3. Save \$74 Energy Dollars annually in the laundry room.

To save hot water and the \$24 to \$40 dollars in energy that it takes to heat that water each year – wash your clothes in cold water. Be sure to choose a laundry detergent that is formulated for use in cold temperatures.

Save another \$34 dollars each year by cleaning the lint-trap in your clothes dryer before every load of laundry; this will help increase the drying efficiency of the machine.

4. Save up to \$61 Energy Dollars annually in the basement and/or utility room.

Lower the temperature on your hot water heater from 145° F to 120° F and you'll notice the savings on your utility bill. In fact, this slight reduction in temperature can save the average homeowner between \$36 and \$61 dollars in energy costs each year.

5. Save \$35 Energy Dollars annually in the Kitchen.

To earn additional savings, be sure to repair faucet leaks at the kitchen and bathroom sinks.

Hot water leaking at a rate of one drip per second can waste up to 1,661 gallons of water annually and up to \$35 dollars in electricity or natural gas.