



# 1·2·3 Cashback

## Actions You Can Take to Save Energy in Your Home

You can help avoid blackouts, manage your energy bill, and make a difference during the state's energy crisis by conserving whenever and wherever possible. Look for practical tips from Pacific Gas and Electric Company that make saving energy as easy as 1,2,3.

PG&E offers **1 No Cost Energy Saving Tips Everyone Can Do** **2 Low Cost Home Improvement Actions** **3 Investments You Can Make to Save Energy**. Products that have rebates or incentives are marked with the **\$** symbol.

### 1

#### No Cost Energy Saving Tips

- Turn-off equipment and appliances when not being used, such as lights, televisions, computer monitors and printers.
- Refrigerator: Give the unit breathing room, clean the coils, and don't set temperature too low. Fresh foods keep at 37 to 42 degrees, frozen foods at 0 to 5 degrees.
- Unplug and recycle your second refrigerator.
- In heating season, set your thermostat at 68 degrees or lower during the day, health permitting. Set your clock thermostat at 55 degrees for the night, or when you will be away for more than four hours. Save up to 5-10% of space heating costs. Clean or replace filters monthly during operating season. Keep your furnace clean, lubricated and properly adjusted.
- In winter, open drapes on sunny days to help warm the rooms.
- Do only full loads when using the clothes washer and dryer. Wash in cold water and use cold water detergent. Or, wash in warm water and rinse in cold water. Clean the dryer lint trap after each use. Or, line dry your clothes.
- If you own a swimming pool, switch pool filter and sweeper operations to off-peak hours. Peak hours are noon to six p.m.
- Air conditioners: Clean or replace filters monthly during operating season. In the cooling season, set your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher when you're at home. Save 10-20% of cooling costs. When you are away from home, set your air conditioner at 85 degrees.
- Provide shading for your air conditioner. Use exterior shading devices or deciduous plants to shade your home and windows from the sun. Save up to 8% of cooling costs.
- Water heater: Lower the water heater temperature to 120 degrees. With a dishwasher, set at 140 degrees, unless the dishwasher has its own heating element. Wash only full loads in the dishwasher. Use the energy saver, air dry cycle, or if allowed, open the door and let dishes dry naturally.
- Computers and Electronics: Look for the ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> label on all products. Visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) for recommended model names.
- Don't preheat your oven. Cook complete meals of several dishes simultaneously in the oven. Use the microwave when possible.
- Close the damper when not using the fireplace. Turn your heater(s) down when using your fireplace.

### 2

#### Low Cost Home Improvement Actions

- Replace existing lamps with sub compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). You can save up to 75% on your lighting costs by converting to low-wattage lamps and fixtures. They use a quarter of the energy of regular incandescent lighting. **\$**



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- Replace hazardous halogen torchiere lamps with ENERGY STAR® fluorescent torchieres. **\$**
- Use ENERGY STAR® hardwired indoor and outdoor fixtures. **\$**
- Use hardwired motion sensors for indoor and outdoor lighting. **\$**
- Use dimmer switches, and timers with incandescent lights.
- Caulk windows, doors, pipes, and anywhere air leaks in and out. Use weather stripping around windows, doors and pipes. Save up to 10%. To seal ducts, use mastic sealants not cloth duct tape.
- Plug gaps around pipes, fans and vents that go through walls, ceilings and floors from heated to unheated spaces.
- Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat to prevent unnecessary heating or cooling. **\$**
- Fix defective plumbing or dripping faucets. Water faucet drips cost energy and water loss up to 212 gallons a month.
- Install energy-saving showerheads in your home. You will reduce hot water use and water costs by 10-16% without affecting comfort.
- Replace your old room air conditioner with a new efficient ENERGY STAR® model. Or, for more savings replace with a portable evaporative cooler. **\$**
- Use a whole house fan to cool your house. **\$** Consider purchasing a whole house evaporative cooler when appropriate for your climate zone. **\$**

- Wrap your older model water heater with a water heater blanket, especially if it's in an unheated area.
- Wrap the tank and pipes for additional savings.
- Keep swimming pool cleaning and heating equipment clean and lubricated. Reduce pool water temperature and the number of months you heat your pool. Pool covers save energy and money. 70% of pool heat loss is by evaporation.
- Install shades, awnings or sun screens on windows facing south and/or west to block heat during summer months.

### 3

#### Investments You Can Make to Save Energy

- Refrigerator: Purchase a new energy-efficient unit if your model is ten years old or older. Older models use twice as much energy as new ENERGY STAR® labeled models. Save up to 50% on energy use. **\$** Recycle your current unit. Unplug and recycle your second refrigerator.
- Clothes Washer: Purchase a new ENERGY STAR® labeled energy efficient washer if your model is ten years old or older. It will use one third of the energy of your older clothes washer. **\$**
- Dishwasher: ENERGY STAR® qualified dishwashers save energy by using both improved technology for the primary wash cycle, and by using less hot water. **\$**
- Replace your central air conditioner if ten years old or older with an ENERGY STAR® model. **\$**

- Replace your furnace if ten years old or older with an ENERGY STAR® model. **\$**
- Get your ducts tested for air leakage. Leaking ducts can reduce the efficiency of your heating or cooling system by up to 20%.
- Insulate ceilings to R-30 standards if your attic is less than R-19. Save up to 25% on heating costs. **\$**
- Insulate walls, floors and duct work. **\$**
- When changing out old windows, buy new high performance ones. Look for the NFRC label and choose a product with U-factor of 0.40 or less and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient of 0.40 or less and Visible Light Transmittance of 0.60 or higher. **\$**
- Replace water heaters if ten years old or older. Buy a gas water heater with Energy Factor .60 or higher. **\$** Buy an electric water heater with Energy Factor .91 or higher. **\$**

#### More Information

Visit [www.pge.com/123Cashback](http://www.pge.com/123Cashback) for more energy saving ideas and information on rebates and incentives. For rebates and incentives, certain conditions apply. Act now as funds are limited.

Use the "Energy Calculator" and the "Home Energy Survey" to learn more about how to save energy.

For more information, call PG&E's Smarter Energy Line at 1-800-933-9555.

*The More You Know About  
Conserving Energy,  
the Less Energy You Need.*



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