

DIY ENERGY CHECKUP

A DO-IT-YOURSELF ENERGY CHECKUP IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS LOWER ENERGY BILL AND A COZIER HOME.

Check this list to see which areas in your home are using energy efficiently. The goal of an energy audit is to locate areas that need efficiency improvements. This simple process can add up to savings on your energy costs and improved comfort levels.

What you will need to conduct an audit:

- Time to do a thorough walk-through audit of your home
- Pencil and paper to note problem areas and locations
- Flashlight

ATTIC AREA

Insulation and Ductwork

- Attic insulation installed evenly
- Attic insulation level should be a minimum of 10 inches or R30
- Attic soffit vents are unblocked by insulation
- Attic access doors properly sealed and insulated
- Check for leaks around pipes, ductwork and chimneys
- Check for adequate ridge ventilation.

Heating and Cooling

- Check that HVAC ducts are sealed and insulated
- Check that outside HVAC unit is clear of weeds and debris

LIVING SPACE

Insulation

- Wall insulation should be a minimum of R13
- Floor insulation should be a minimum of R19 in exposed floors (pier and beam)

Heating and Cooling

- Air supply vents/registers are open and air flow is unrestricted
- Return air registers are unblocked and air flow is unrestricted
- Return air filters are clean and changed regularly
- Programmable or electronic thermostats are installed
- HVAC system is serviced annually

Air Infiltration

- Check for leaks at baseboards, top plate, window frames, windows, door frames, doors, electrical outlets, switch plates, bath and kitchen exhaust fans, shower/tub drains, window air conditioning units, fireplace dampers, pipes and wires through walls or ceilings, plumbing penetrations under sinks, recessed lights, HVAC supply air registers, HVAC return air registers, attic access doors and attic pull-down staircases
- Air leaks are likely to blame for persistent dirt lines on floors where carpeting and walls meet. Lines appear because dirt travels in moisture, moisture travels in heat, and heat seeks cold. Check for drafts where lines exist. Then seal any leaks with caulk or other appropriate insulation material.



Appliances and Lighting

- Replace older inefficient appliances with Energy Star® appliance models
- Refrigerator – condenser coils clean
- Refrigerator – door gasket tight
- Water heater thermostat set at 120° to 125° or a low setting
- Dishwasher – energy saver drying feature turned on
- Washing machine – use cold water whenever possible
- Water well – check for water leaks or water logged pressure tank
- Use LED bulbs when replacing compact fluorescent or incandescent bulbs
- Outdoor lights – check that photocell is working properly



For more information visit these sites:

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

Department of Energy: eere.energy.gov

San Bernard Electric Cooperative:
sbec.org/content/energy-efficiency-programs



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