

Winter is Almost Here

Here are some strategies to help you save energy, money and stay comfortable in the fall through the winter

1. Take Advantage of the Heat from the Sun
 - Open the curtains and let the sun in during the day. The sunlight will naturally heat your home. Make sure you close them at night to reduce the chill from the closed windows.
2. Cover Drafty Windows
 - Use heavy duty clear plastic sheeting on the window frames or tape clear plastic film to the inside of your window frames during the winter months. Make sure that the plastic is sealed tightly to the frame to keep out the cold.
 - Use tight fitting insulating drapes or shades on windows that feel drafty
3. Adjust the Temperature
 - When you are home and awake keep the temperature at as low as you are comfortable
 - When you sleep or are out of the house, drop the temperature 10-15 degrees. You will save an extra 10% a year on your heating cost. (A smart programmable thermostat can do this automatically for you!)
4. Find & Seal Leaks
 - Seal air leaks around utility cut throughs for pipes, gaps around chimneys and recessed lights in insulated ceilings.
 - Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.
5. Maintain Your Heating System.
 - Schedule service for your furnace/boiler
 - Replace filters once a month or as needed.
 - For Wood and Pellet Burning Heaters – clean flue vent regularly and clean the inside with a wire brush periodically.