

# Energy Saving Tips

**For more information:**  
U.S. Department of Energy  
(<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips>)  
Energy Star  
(<http://www.energystar.com>)

## In your home



- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL's) in your most regularly used light sockets. CFL's:
- 🌐 last up to 10 times longer than incandescent light bulbs
  - 🌐 use up to 75% less energy
  - 🌐 save about \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb
  - 🌐 are available in many shapes and sizes

If every American home replaced just one light bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified bulb, we would save **enough energy to light more than 3 million homes for a year**, more than **\$600 million in annual energy costs**, and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of more than **800,000 cars**. (Energy Star) \* \* \* Since CFL's contain a small amount of mercury please dispose of them at the household hazardous waste facility in your area (<http://www.co.chisago.mn.us>)

- 🌐 Turn lights off when leaving a room
- 🌐 Turn water off while brushing teeth
- 🌐 Keep an eye on your thermostat – You can reduce energy consumption by lowering your thermostat when you are not at home or during the night in the winter, or raising it in the summer. Use a programmable thermostat to make this easy
- 🌐 Turn down the thermostat on your water heater to 120° F
- 🌐 Upgrade insulation in your home to make sure you are getting the most out of your heating and cooling practices

## Appliances

- 🌐 Look for the energy star label when buying new appliances
- 🌐 Air dry dishes instead of using your dishwashers drying cycle
- 🌐 Use a microwave oven or toaster oven instead of a conventional oven
- 🌐 Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes
- 🌐 Unplug appliances while not in use including: laptop, TV, computer monitor, radio, microwave, etc.

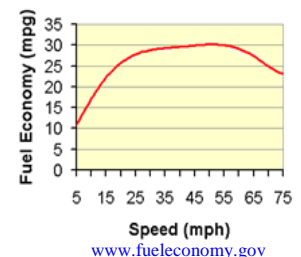


## Automobiles

- 🌐 Slow down – gas mileage usually decreases rapidly at speeds over 60 mph
- 🌐 Change clogged air filters – increase gas mileage up to 10%
- 🌐 Keep tires properly inflated - increase gas mileage up to 3.3%
- 🌐 Use your cruise control – steady speeds get better gas mileage than varied speeds
- 🌐 Next time you purchase a car, consider a more fuel efficient model



Honda Civic Hybrid



## Reduce - Reuse - Recycle

- 🌐 Consider buying products with less packaging, or recyclable packaging
- 🌐 Contact your garbage hauler to get a recycling bin or cart at your home and office
- 🌐 Use reusable containers instead of bags in your lunch box
- 🌐 Bring a canvas bag to the grocery store – or reuse bags you have gotten in the past (ask the store if they give a discount for bringing the bags back)
- 🌐 Use cloth towels for cleaning instead of paper towels

## Plant a tree

- 🌐 A tree can help shade your home lowering your cooling costs
  - 🌐 Trees absorb and use carbon and give off the oxygen that we breathe
  - 🌐 Plant trees and landscape with plants that are native to your area and soils – these plants require less watering and fertilizer
- (<http://www.chisagoswcd.org>)