Home Energy and Water Efficiency Resource Investment Curve

Completing these tiers in order is generally the most efficient use of your money



Tier 1 Investment

Varied Savings—Immediate Return

- Set thermostat at 78° in summer, 68° in winter
- Set temperature 5° warmer when not at home in summer (or 5° cooler in winter)
- Set thermostat on "auto"

Resources Saved vs. Resources Invested

- Check and/or change heating and AC filter monthly
- Use fans to feel cooler in the summer (when in the room)
- Close shades/blinds to keep heat out in summer
- Only increase thermostat by 1° or 2° at a time in the winter
- Set water heater to 125°
- Turn water heater off when leaving home for two or more days
- Wash full loads & use cold water

Tier 2 Investment

Highest Savings To Cost Ratio, Quickest Payback Time

- Weather Strip & Caulk
- Refrigerant Charge
- Heating/AC Maintenance
- **Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb**
- Water Heater Blanket
- Heat Trap for hot water line
- Faucet Aerators
- **Low-Flow Showerhead**
- Water Heater Temp Check & Adjustment
- Hot Water Line Pipe Insulation
- Programmable Thermostat

Tier 3 Investment

Good Savings To Cost Ratio, Moderate Payback Time

- **■** Ceiling Insulation Upgrade
- **Radiant Barrier**
- Energy Star Electronics (TV, DVD, PC, etc.)
- Duct Repair
- Sunscreen/Solar Screen
- Window Film
- High-Efficiency Toilet Replacement
- **Efficient Pool Pumps**

Tier 4 Investment

Moderate Savings To Cost Ratio, Lengthy Payback Time

- **■** Energy Star Appliances
- High-Efficiency Heating/AC Unit With Proper Sizing
- Solar or Heat Pump Water Heater
- Reflective Roof

Tier 5 Investment

Lowest Savings To Cost Ratio, Longest Payback Time

- Heat or Energy Recovery Unit
- Low-E Windows
- Solar Electric Panels
- Geothermal Heat Pumps

Immediate 1 Year or Less 2–5 Years 6–10 Years Greater than 10 Years

Home Energy and Water Efficiency Resource Investment Curve Planner

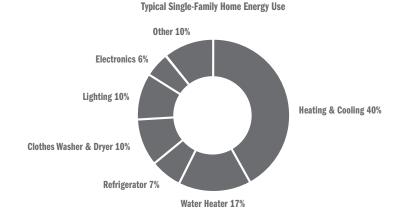
Tier 1 Investments Varied Savings—Imm	nediate Return
☐ Set thermostat at 78° in summer,	
68° in winter	Plan Date:
☐ Set temperature 5° warmer when not at	
home in summer (or 5° cooler in winter)	Plan Date:
☐ Set thermostat on "auto"	Plan Date:
☐ Check and/or change heating and	
AC filter monthly	Plan Date:
☐ Use fans to feel cooler in the summer	Plan Date:
☐ Close shades/blinds to keep heat out	
in summer	Plan Date:
☐ Only increase thermostat by 1° or 2° at	
a time in the winter	Plan Date:
☐ Set water heater to 125°	Plan Date:
☐ Turn water heater off when leaving home	
for two or more days	Plan Date:
☐ Wash full loads and use cold water	Plan Date:
☐ Dump that 2nd frig and save \$5 to	
\$20 per month	Plan Date:
☐ Check that toilet flapper valve for	
leaks often	Plan Date:
☐ Ensure correct lawn irrigation times, days	
and water amounts	Plan Date:
☐ Turn off lights when not in use	Plan Date:
☐ Don't let the water run when not in use	Plan Date:
	Plan Date:

☐ Weather Strip & Caulk	Plan Date:
Refrigerant Charge	Plan Date:
☐ Heating/AC Maintenance	Plan Date:
☐ Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb	Plan Date:
	Plan Date:
☐ Heat Trap for hot water line	Plan Date:
☐ Faucet Aerators	Plan Date:
□ Low-Flow Showerhead	Plan Date:
☐ Water Heater Temp Check & Adjustment	Plan Date:
☐ Hot Water Line Pipe Insulation	Plan Date:
□ Programmable Thermostat	Plan Date:
	Plan Date:

Tier 3 Investments Good Savings To Cost Ratio, Moderate Payback Time - 2-5 Years ☐ Ceiling Insulation Upgrade Plan Date: ☐ Radiant Barrier Plan Date: ☐ Energy Star Electronics (TV, DVD, PC, etc.) Plan Date: □ Duct Repair Plan Date: ☐ Sunscreen/Solar Screen Plan Date: ☐ Window Film Plan Date: ☐ High-Efficiency Toilet Replacement Plan Date: ☐ Efficient Pool Pump Plan Date: Plan Date:







Source: Residential Energy Consumption Survey, 2005 via www.energystar.gov