

Turning your
house into
your dream
home

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*If you're not
using it ...
turn it off ...
doing so
could save
you as much
as 6 % of
your monthly
bill*

DOING IT RIGHT

With help from D4 Construction

Home Energy Use

Part II

Continuing the search for energy savings tips...

Last month we discussed tips to cut your energy bill by checking your home's outer shell and furnace system.

This month we'll look at tips for saving on home energy costs through our lighting and appliances.

The How-To of Saving—

Approximately a quarter of every hydro electric bill goes to your lighting and appliances. To decrease this amount, try implementing some or all of the following strategies:

- ⇒ Compact fluorescent bulbs are more energy efficient than the incandescent version
- ⇒ Make sure to turn off all lights, stereo, TV, radios not in use—even if you're only leaving the room for a few minutes
- ⇒ Invest in a power bar with an on/off switch that you can use for all your various chargers – simply switch the bar off when the chargers are not in use – employing this one simple step could save you as much as 6% of your monthly bill

⇒ Though turning off the computer every time you've finished using it is not always practical—turning off the monitor is a simple solution that makes a good second best

⇒ Refrain from using your microwave to thaw frozen meat—try remembering to take the meat out the night before or the morning of—if you forget—place the meat in a water tight bag and immerse in warm water—this works quite well in speeding up the thawing process

⇒ Consider investing in a set of "Waterless Cookware" – not only will your food taste better and be healthier for you, it could save you as much as 10% on your monthly electrical bills

⇒ Going away for awhile? Lower the thermostat by as much as 7 degrees

The fridge—

⇒ Reduce the thermostat in your fridge—this appliance alone constitutes 20% of your household electrical consumption

⇒ Keep your fridge at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full for maximum efficiency

⇒ Don't put hot/warm food in the fridge – cooling the food down consumes a lot of power

⇒ Defrost your freezer(s) regularly—as the ice builds up it uses more electricity

Doing it Right



Protect your children's future...

Start making changes today.

The hot water tank—

- ⇒ Reduce the temperature of your hot water heater —140°C is sufficient for washing dishes and clothes—save even more by washing your clothes in cold water
- ⇒ Invest in a water heater jacket which can save you an additional \$5-12 per month—it'll pay for itself in about 6 months
- ⇒ Insulate hot water pipes wherever they are visible— your water will stay hotter longer

The washer and dryer—

- ⇒ Wash your clothes in cold water—the “Tide” commercials aren't lying—you can save as much as 90% of your washing machine's electrical consumption if you don't use hot water
- ⇒ Use your dryer for consecutive loads – the built up heat means less energy spent

One step at a time—

Try implementing just one new energy-saving strategy each week or even month.

Not only will you save money but you'll be saving your children's future home as well

All it takes is one small step at a time.

Upcoming Topics

- ⇒ Water Saving Tips
- ⇒ Efficient Heating and Cooling
- ⇒ Keeping the Weather Out

For more information:

on how we can assist you with turning your house into your dream home while making it more energy efficient—or if you have any questions—call Mike Spruyt at 572-4812

The D₄ Guarantee



D₁ – Your job will be done for the price specified—there are no surprises or hidden costs.

D₂ – Your job will be completed the way you want it done.

D₃ – If you aren't satisfied with the finished product we'll fix it for free.

D₄– All work comes with a 2-year guarantee on workmanship