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Electric Conservation Tips

Paying attention to the electricity you use has an immediate benefit for your wallet. Here are some of our favorite tips to reduce the amount of electricity you use and pay for.

As much as **10% of the electricity we use comes from electronics** that are plugged in but not in use. Try putting TVs, game consoles, and other electronic items on a power strip you can turn off with one press. Look for "smart power strips" on Amazon or at the store.

Air-conditioning will be one of your highest electrical costs. **Try using ceiling fans** more and keeping your apartment a little warmer. Go ahead and turn off the AC when no one is home. It will cool off quickly when you return. If you suspect it's not working efficiently, or cooling, alert your property manager right away.

Replace your bulbs with LEDs. LED bulbs have a very long life and use almost no energy. You can select bright white or soft white (yellowish) based on your preference. If not provided, you can buy them inexpensively and use them for many years to come.





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Program your thermostat. Today's smart thermostats learn your behavior and adjust. Trust the programming to do its job and keep you comfortable and your bill under control.

Insulated draperies. If you live in a cold climate, insulated draperies are a small, but powerful, investment in your comfort. You can even get ones that black out the light for a perfect night's sleep.

Start the morning right. If it's a little chilly when you wake up, put the heat on for 5 minutes just to take the chill off. This will make the space feel more comfortable and might be all you need in Spring and Fall.

Read labels. When it comes time to buy a new appliance, check for energy star and make a decision based on the total cost of the appliance and how much it will cost to operate.

Report drafts and leaks. A lot of energy can leak out in door and window gaps. If you feel like you're walking through a wind tunnel when you pass a window, let your property manager know so they can have it sealed.

Cuddle. The best part of winter is curling up with loved ones and pets. Put on a movie, grab a soft blanket, and enjoy a brisk day in cozy comfort.

