



Five Home Improvement Tips to Decrease Your Energy Bill

During the holiday frenzy, who isn't looking to save money? The City of Edmonton's newly-released Green Home Guide offers tips on how to increase the energy-efficiency in your home to decrease those pesky energy bills.

Here are some simple factors to consider

- **How energy-efficient are your windows?**
A well-insulated home with energy-efficient windows provides optimal comfort with no drafts or cold spots. Energy-efficient windows, doors or skylights reduce your home energy costs by seven to 12 per cent.
- **Where does your heat go?**
A heat recovery ventilation system is considered an important component of an energy-efficient home. It saves energy by recovering 60 to 90 per cent of the heat from the air that's being extracted.
- **Does your furnace need to be replaced?**
A high-efficiency furnace has an annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) rating of 90 to 97 per cent. This means that a furnace at the high end of this range will convert 97 per cent of the combusted natural gas to usable energy, with the remaining three per cent exhausted to the outside. By comparison, many older furnaces have an AFUE of only about 60 per cent, meaning 40 per cent of the fuel is wasted.
- **How are you heating your water?**
On average, about 20 per cent of the total energy consumed in a home goes to water heating. It is the second-largest energy user after space heating. Consider upgrading your current water heater to a tankless water heater. It provides hot water only as it's needed and does not produce the standby energy loss associated with storage water heaters.
- **How old are your appliances?**
The average kitchen accounts for 20 to 40 per cent of a home's total energy bill. If your refrigerator and dishwasher are more than 10 years old, you can most likely reduce your utility bills by replacing these appliances with high-efficiency models.

For more tips on greening your home and saving money, please visit:

edmonton.ca/greenbuilding

Media contact:

[Maya Filipovic](#)
Communications Advisor
780-496-8196

Share:     

3rd Floor, City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square NW
Edmonton, AB
T5J 2R7
www.edmonton.ca

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Printer Friendly Version](#)

This email was created and delivered through [Mailout](#)