

ENERGY SAVING TIPS AND HINTS

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE

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St. Lawrence County will update this feature monthly with tips and other information for those interested in reducing their energy consumption during this current period of extremes in energy pricing. However, beyond the fiscal benefits of reducing our energy needs on a day-to-day basis, we are also being good stewards of these often non-renewable resources. Those with ideas to share for potential inclusion of future tip sheets are encouraged to submit them to planning@co.st-lawrence.ny.us



SAVING ENERGY AROUND THE HOME

CLEAN THE FILTER: If your heating system has a

filter, clean or replace it once a month during the heating system. Efficient movement of heated air will heat your home more quickly and will reduce run times for the furnace and blowers.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SUN: open your drapes during the daytime to capture sunlight heating and close your drapes in the evening to reduce heat loss.

TURN YOUR THERMOSTAT DOWN: for every 1° F that you set your thermostat back, you can save 1-3 percent on your annual heating costs. Turn the thermostat down if you will be away for a few hours.

SAVING ENERGY IN YOUR CAR



KEEP TIRES PROPERLY INFLATED: If your tires are underinflated, you can be reducing your fuel efficiency by up to 10 percent on every trip. Proper inflation levels can be found in your owner's manual.

EMPTY YOUR TRUNK OR TRUCK BED: Don't drive your golf clubs around and don't haul sand for traction when the roads are dry. Extra weight reduces fuel efficiency.

USE THE A/C SPARINGLY: The A/C often reduces fuel efficiency by up to 20 percent. However, don't roll all the windows down either. Driving with the windows down reduces the aerodynamics of the car and can also reduce fuel efficiency. Use the vent whenever possible.