

#### 10. Drive Green

#### Makes choosing an electric car easier and more affordable... for anyone!

Walk, bike, or take mass transit whenever you can - but your next car should be electric! Electric cars are cheaper and cleaner to drive per mile than gas-guzzlers. Participate in Drive Green to get a discount to purchase or lease a top electric car model at a participating dealer.

#### Get started: greenenergyconsumers.org/DriveGreen



Green Energy Consumers is a non-profit organization that enables everyday people to make green energy choices in the most cost-effective, practical and seamless ways possible, and to advocate for energy policies that benefit the greater good.



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#### greenenergyconsumers.org

#### GREEN ENERGY CONSUMERS ALLIANCE

# **Energy Efficiency Tips**

Save energy. Save money. Save the environment.

Find out how to take advantage of statewide rebates and no-cost services for your home.

greenenergyconsumers.org/energy-efficiency

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#### 1. Energy Assessment

Sign up for a no-cost home energy assessment through your state's energy efficiency program, administered by your electric and gas utilities.

Massachusetts - Mass Save: 1-866-527-7283 or visit MassSave.com

Rhode Island - EnergyWise: 1-888-633-7947 or visit myngrid.com/energywise.

During your assessment, an energy professional will look for your biggest opportunities to save energy. Rebates on insulation, Energy Star® gualified appliances, and more are available for gas, oil, propane, and electricity customers, regardless of household income.

Note: if you live in MA and live in a municipal utility district, please call them directly for information on no-cost assessments, rebates, and programs in your.



#### 2. Insulate & Air Seal



During your home energy assessment, your energy specialist will tell you if there are places where your home could be made more energy efficient. A huge source of lost energy is poor insulation, but there are significant rebates and incentives to pay for plugging air leaks and insulating. If you need insulation and air sealing or other energy system upgrades, your energy specialist can offer you a contract for that work or refer you to qualified contractors.



#### **3.** Thermostats

Set thermostats to 68°F or lower in winter when you're home and 55°F when you go to bed or when you're away. In the summer, keep your air conditioner set to 80°F or higher and make sure its turned off during the day when you're not at home. An Energy

Star® gualified programmable thermostat can do this automatically. Join us to "shave the peak" by saving energy when it matters most: greenenergyconsumers/shavethepeak



### 4. Lighting

Replace your incandescent bulbs with LEDs, which start faster, last longer, and use less energy than compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs). You can find LEDs at local hardware stores and supermarkets. Choose Energy Star® rated LEDs for reliability.

Learn more: greenenergyconsumers.org/energy-efficiency



### 5. Water Heating



Water heating is the third largest energy user in the average home. Purchase a new Energy Star®-rated water heater if yours is old.

We reccommend you look into indirect water heaters, heat pump, or hybrid water heaters. (Tip: they need plenty of space and air flow to work well!) Learn more at energy.gov/energysaver/selecting-new-water-heater and always take advantage of rebates (see Section 1 for details). Other tips: set your hot water thermostat to 120 degrees. Take showers instead of baths, use low-flow shower heads and faucets, and wash clothes in cold water.



### 6. Energy Star Appliances

Look for the Energy Star<sup>®</sup> logo when you buy major appliances, light bulbs, windows, and many other products. The logo indicates that the product is energy efficient. For example, the purchase of an Energy Star® refrigerator could pay for itself in 2-4 years! To find the most efficient appliances, go to **aceee.org/consumer.** 



#### 7. Rebates & Tax Credits

Rebates for a number of upgrades can be found at Mass Save (in MA) or EnergyWise (in RI) and are offered at the time of a no-cost energy assessment (See Section 1). Other tax credits and rebates can be readily found at dsireusa.org.



### 8. Renewable Energy

We make it quick & easy to switch to local green electricity at greenenergyconsumers.org/green. If you want to install solar, we've teamed up with EnergySage to offer you the easiest way

to compare quotes from vetted installers: greenenergyconsumers.org/solar. See dsireusa.org for details on all solar incentives.



## 9. Heat with oil?

Get a tune-up and cleaning every year. Make sure your service contractor checks the efficiency of your system at that time - and gives you a written report. If your heating system's combustion

efficiency is below 80%, it may be time for replacement. Highly efficient heating systems can have an 11% return on investment (tax free)! Join our heating oil service for discounts on oil and assistance to use less and green the rest: greenenergyconsumers.org/heating-oil