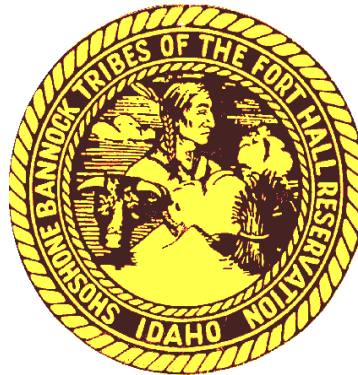


## CHECKLIST OF THINGS TO CHECK AROUND YOUR HOME

- Light Bulbs
- Are your lights being turned off?
- Filters for your furnace
- Air leaks- light fixtures, covers
- Air leaks in your doors
- Windows- are there leaks? what kind of widows do you have?
- Insulation
- How much power do your appliances take to run?
- Are you using natural light and heat?
- Can you use less water?
- Are doors being left open?
- Are appliances being left on?
- Is your landscaping fit for the desert?

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

- [www.energy.gov/](http://www.energy.gov/)
- <http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/>
- [www.knowledgehound.com/topics/energyef.htm](http://www.knowledgehound.com/topics/energyef.htm)
- [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov)



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# SHOSHONE- BANNOCK TRIBES

## Energy Resource Management

**“TAKE A SMALL STEP TO  
HELP PRESERVE OUR  
ENVIRONMENT,  
CONSERVE OUR MONEY,  
AND MAKE OUR LIVES  
MORE EFFICIENT”**

## ENERGY CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY GUIDE FOR HOME OWNERS



## ENERGY CONSERVATION AND ENERGY TIPS FOR HOME OWNERS

Energy conservation can be one of the best strategies to reduce the amount of money you spend on monthly bills such as electricity, gas, water, etc. Energy efficiency improvements to your home is the lowest investment with the highest return in the field of energy. Many of these strategies are easy to implement, more reliable, and very sustainable. Here are some tips that can lower your monthly energy bills as well as benefit the environment around us:

- **Lighting**- The first step to making your home more energy efficient should be to change out your light bulbs. Compact Fluorescent Lights use up to 75% less energy than standard incandescent lights. Each light you change out can save you up to a dollar each month, which adds up very quickly when changing 10-20 light bulbs. Every light bulb will pay itself off in 1-4 months and for the remaining five years you will be saving money. Also, remember to remind everyone in your home to turn off the lights when they are not using them as this will contribute to lower power bills.
- **Heating**- No matter what kind of heating system that you use, you can save money on making it more efficient. If you use a furnace and it is an older model, it can be replaced with an Energy Star model which will save money. You should check your exposed duct work to make sure there are no leaks or broken seals as this will reduce the efficiency of your heating system. It may also be beneficial to get a home energy audit to check your duct work. If you use a wood stove to heat your home then you can use various types of fans to help circulate the air throughout your home more efficiently.

- **Air Leaks**- One of the most common ways to lose heat or cool air is air leaks in your home. The most common places for air leaks are in your windows and doors. However, there may also be leaks in your light fixtures and electrical outlets. You can check your light fixtures in your attic and you should make sure that your lights switches and outlet covers are in good condition. Low E Vinyl windows are the most efficient windows and will pay themselves off very quickly. Also, Try to check your doors for leaks as this may be a major source for heat loss. Remind everyone to shut the door promptly when it is extremely hot or cold. An open door is great way to let unwanted cold or hot air in.
- **Insulation**- Many homes, especially older ones, have sub-par insulation. It is a good idea to check your insulation to see what kind of shape it is in and how thick it is. Since you cannot replace the insulation in your walls it is a good idea to replace the insulation in your ceiling, basement, or crawl space. Check energy efficient standards on the internet to see how thick the insulation should be.
- **Appliances**- Many times when we go and shop for appliances we look at the price of the appliance as the major factor of whether or not to buy it. However, the cost of running the machine should also be factored into the purchase price of any appliance we buy for our homes. If you are in the market for a new appliance, I would recommend investing in a Energy Star rated appliance. It will save you money in your monthly operating costs and actually save you money throughout the lifetime of the appliance. It may be more upfront but it definitely pays off in the end. For instance a Energy Star front loader washing machine with a high spin out rate uses less water, electricity, soap, and less drying time. It can actually pay off the difference in price of a standard washing machine

within two years and pay itself off within four years. After that you are just saving money every month.

- **Natural Light and Heat**- Heating and lighting our homes can be very expensive, especially in the cold and dark winter months. This is why using natural light and heat makes a lot of sense. Open your curtains on the sunny side of the house and use that natural heat and light for your home.
- **Water Use**- Everyone pays for their water whether it is to the city or in the form of electricity from the water pump. Water use can add up very quickly on your monthly bills so try to conserve it when you can: take shorter showers, turn off the water while brushing your teeth, etc. We live in a desert and water will continue to be very important in the future, so lets do our best to conserve it now.
- **Building New Homes**- If your are looking into building a new home or having one built for yourself, consider making it energy efficient. Talk to the builder about energy efficient features that you can use to save you money. Experts report that adding \$20 to your monthly house payment for energy efficiency features can save you \$40 on your monthly bills. It is a wise investment.
- **Landscaping**- When planning your landscaping for your home, make sure you think about things such as water use, wind direction, direct solar heating, etc. The best landscaping for the environment and energy costs is zeroscaping, i.e. using native plants, grasses, trees, and stones for landscaping. It uses less water and pesticides and takes less maintenance. It is also wise to use trees as a wind or sun break.