

The 12 Days of Savings

The festive flyer below presents the top 12 energy saving tips for the holidays and is the perfect companion to your Energy Gift Certificates.

Simply print, fold in half (Fig. 1) and then in half again (Fig. 2) and tuck it into your envelope or gift basket.

Fig. 1



Fig. 2



- ## The 12 Days of Savings
- 1. Light up with LEDs.** Use LED lights for all your holiday decorating. They use 90% less electricity than traditional bulbs and can last up to 10 times longer.
 - 2. A little more Ebenezer and a lot less Griswold.** Avoid elaborate outdoor lighting schemes. Instead, try simple accents on walkways and drives. It saves energy and still provides safe lighting for people walking in winter conditions.
 - 3. Follow the wise men's star.** If a new TV, VCR, or DVD player is on your holiday shopping list, look for ENERGY STAR® qualified models. ENERGY STAR® electronics save money and help protect the environment by using less energy.
 - 4. Hang the stockings, but close the flue.** Don't let heat go up the chimney. Make sure the fireplace flue is closed when you are not using it.
 - 5. Have a cool Yule.** Lowering the thermostat by as little as 1° F typically reduces your heating bill 1-3%. Most energy experts recommend setting the thermostat to 68° F or less, and several degrees cooler overnight.
 - 6. Is your home alone?** Whether it's for parties or holiday travel, make sure you lower your thermostat when leaving the house for any length of time. You use less energy to heat the house when you return than to keep it heated while you are away.

- 7. Is your home alone?** Invest in a timer. Timers that automatically turn lights on and off can reduce your energy use and at the same time increase safety by making your house seem occupied while you're away.
- 8. Here we come a-wassailing.** Lots of welcome guests drop by during the holidays, but every time the door is opened, cold air enters your home. Try to minimize the number of times doors to the outside are opened and closed.
- 9. Gingerbread, frosted, glazed, and sugared.** When doing all that holiday baking, turn the oven or range off a few minutes before cooking time has elapsed. It will still retain enough heat to finish the job.
- 10. No peeking!** That goes for ovens as well as gifts. Each time you open the oven door, the temperature drops 25-50 degrees. Avoid lifting pot lids for the same reason.
- 11. Dashing through the fridge.** Close the refrigerator door and minimize its constant use. Opening the refrigerator door accounts for between \$10 and \$20 of a typical family's electricity bill each year based on 40-60 openings per day.
- 12. Happy New Year!** Ring in the New Year by having your heating system tuned and inspected by a service professional. Losses from a poorly maintained system accumulate over time, sometimes at a rate of 1-2% each year.



For questions, please call
800-450-7260



www.wisconsinpublicservice.com

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