



Follow our conservation calendar and **LEARN TIPS AND TRICKS ABOUT CONSERVATION!**

			<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Each degree above 78 during summer and below 68 during winter saves between 6% and 8% on your cooling or heating bill.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Keep your central A/C unit set to auto, so the fan isn't constantly turning.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Determine your home's energy use and areas for improvement. Get started with a free online or in-home energy audit from OUC.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Use ceiling fans to make rooms feel cooler. Make sure they're turning counter clockwise, but don't forget to turn them off when the room is empty.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Install a smart thermostat, and you can save about \$180 every year in energy costs.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Instead of just turning your electronics off, unplug them. Even when they're "off," they still draw electricity from the outlet.</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Caulk and place weather strips around leaky windows and doors.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Test your shower head. If it fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace it with a low-flow shower head.</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Set your water heater to 120°F. Lowering the thermostat by 10°F can save you 3%–5% in energy costs.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Clean the coils behind or underneath your refrigerator every 6 months to keep it running efficiently.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Properly seal ducts. An average duct system loses 10 to 40% of cool air or heat through gaps in the duct joints.</p>
<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Clear your dryer vent regularly to prevent fires and improve efficiency.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>A home needs shade, too. Block out heat by keeping blinds or curtains closed during the day, especially on windows that face east or west.</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Replace your toilet with a low flow model that uses less than 1.3 gallons per flush. It can reduce indoor water usage up to 20%!</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Maintenance matters. Plan to change or clean your air filter monthly. Set this day as your monthly reminder.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>When you shop for a new appliance, look for the ENERGY STAR® label.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Showers account for two-thirds of your water heating costs. Cut your showers in half and reduce your water heating costs by 33%.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Energy-efficient windows can help minimize your heating, cooling and lighting costs. The added benefits of comfort and savings is worth it.</p>
<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Use the air-dry setting instead of heat-dry on your dishwasher to save at least 15% on energy costs.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>To prevent from over watering your lawn, use a kitchen timer as a reminder to turn off the sprinkler system.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>View OUC's conservation videos for easy "do-it-yourself" energy solutions for your home. <a href="http://www.ouc.com/waystosave">www.ouc.com/waystosave</a></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Fix leaky faucets. One drop per second can add up to 165 gallons a month—that's more than one person uses in two weeks.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Make an investment. Add 6 inches of insulation to an attic and reap substantial energy savings.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Installing a storm door can increase energy efficiency by 45% by sealing drafts and reducing air flow.</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Plant trees or shrubs to shade your air conditioning unit. A unit operating in the shade uses 10% less electricity than the same one operating in the sun.</p>
<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Did you know that it costs nearly 7 times as much to dry your clothes as it does to wash them?</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Ceiling fans make you feel 3-4 degrees cooler, meaning you can raise your thermostat and still feel fine.</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Water heating can account for 14%-25% of the energy consumed in your home. Wash your clothes in cold water and save.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Wash only full loads in dishwashers and clothing washers. Using hot water can add about 90 percent to the cost of each load, so consider using cold water.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Install solar-powered lights along your outdoor walkways. You'll be safer, and there's no wiring or electricity costs involved!</p>	<p>Post this sheet on your refrigerator or use as your desktop. It will be a reminder of the small steps you can take each day to conserve energy and save money.</p> <p>Visit <a href="http://OUC.com">OUC.com</a> to learn more about energy conservation and to find more tips.</p> <p><b><a href="http://www.ouc.com">www.ouc.com</a></b></p>	