

Recycle

your waste—make sure it will be reprocessed into something new

More information and energy-saving tips are available online, including the Energy Star do-it-yourself guide to sealing air leaks at www.energystar.gov.

Other helpful sites include:

www.energyfederation.org

www.cl-p.com/Home/SaveEnergy/Tools.aspx

For more information on the Home Energy Solutions Program go to www.ctenergyinfo.com

For information on energy conservation loans go to www.chif.org

If you would like to become a member of the East Haddam Green Committee or would like to volunteer to help us in our efforts, please pick up a volunteer form at the town offices. For more information, call committee chairman Ken Simon at 873-3328.

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Easy Ways to go Green

From the East Haddam Green Committee

Recycle Your Stuff

- Use the website www.freecycle.org to donate or receive used items
- Properly dispose of old paint, mobile phones, electronics, and batteries
- Recycle paper at work AND at home

Save Fuel

- Make sure your tires are properly inflated in order to get the best gas mileage possible
- Carpool whenever you can
- Use public transportation when possible
- Don't drive when you can walk or bike

Be Local

- Learn how to grow your own fruits and vegetables
- Buy and eat locally grown foods
- Shop at local businesses, farm stands and farmer's markets

Be Green

- Sign up for CT Clean Energy Options at www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com/now.htm
- Become a member of the onething movement to help conserve energy and protect our environment www.onethingct.com/
- Stop buying bottled water - use a refillable bottle and use tap water instead
- Compost food waste
- Catch rainwater runoff. Use a rain barrel
- Minimize the amount of unwanted mail by visiting https://www.directmail.com/directory/mail_preference/
- Bring a cup and fork to work with you and stop using styro-foam cups and plates
- Use nontoxic household cleaners

Reduce

your impact on the environment

Save Energy

- Use a clothes line instead of your dryer - up to 4% of your household electricity usage is caused by dryers
- Wash your clothes in cold water
- Install programmable thermostats in your home
- Caulk around windows and doors to keep air from escaping
- Use self-adhesive foam weather stripping on door frames to prevent leaking
- Seal pipes by spraying low-expandable foam around pipes leading from your house to the outside or from the basement to upstairs
- Install door sweeps at the bottom of doors leading to the outside or into your basement or attic
- Change the air filter in your heating system
- Stop using electric clocks. Use a wind-up alarm clock
- Refrigerators use up to 14% of your total electrical bill. Replace any refrigerator purchased prior to 1994 - you will recoup the cost in energy savings <http://www.thegreenguide-magazine.com>
- Clean your refrigerator coils regularly
- Request an energy audit for your home or business. (Ask us how you can get a discounted co-pay from CL&P!)
- Adjust your thermostat. Set it to 68 degrees when you're at home and awake, and lower it when you're asleep or away. By turning your thermostat back 10 to 15 degrees for eight hours a day, you can save 5 percent to 15 percent a year on your heating bill — about 1 percent for each degree

Reuse

unwanted items by repurposing -
don't throw them in a landfill

Save Energy

- Install drapes, the heavier the better, on all windows, keeping them open during the day to let the sun in and closed at night to help keep heat inside.
- Put cordless phones in storage. Cordless phones use additional electricity. Corded phones don't.
- Disconnect answering machine at night
- Switch off microwave, TVs, and computer through power strips or light switch
- Disconnect doorbell (the doorbell could use as much electricity as a microwave)
- Close a door to an unoccupied room or area that is isolated from the rest of the house. Turn down the thermostat for that room or area, or close the vents or turn off the radiator in that area
- Make sure heating vents are not blocked by furniture or drapes
- Keep the fireplace damper closed when there is no fire to avoid a loss of heat up the chimney. Also, check the seal on the damper and make sure it's snug. If you have a simple, open masonry fireplace, consider installing doors or a chimney-top damper.
- You'll be turning your lights on sooner now, so make sure all of your lights are energy-efficient. Energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs use up to 75 percent less electricity than the incandescent bulbs they replace.
- Install your storm windows, and make sure they fit well