

Home Energy Savings Checklist

ACTION	INVESTMENT LEVEL	ANNUAL SAVINGS
LIGHTING		
Turn off lights when leaving the room.	None	\$\$
Replace your 15 most frequently used light bulbs to LED.	Low	\$\$
Replace outdoor lighting fixtures with ENERGY STAR labeled ones including motion sensor and photocell LED bulbs.	Low	\$
Replace inefficient ceiling or wall mounted light fixtures with ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures and LED bulbs.	Med	\$\$
HEATING, COOLING, WINDOWS		
Set your fan to run counterclockwise in summer (push air down) and clockwise in winter (pull air up). Turn the fan off when not in the room.	None	\$
Check your HVAC filter every month and change it at least every 3 months.	Low	\$
Install an ENERGY STAR programmable thermostat. Set it to 78 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer and 82 degrees or higher when away from the house. Set it for 68 degrees or cooler in the winter.	Low	\$\$\$
Add window film to block out solar heat gain and replace windows with ENERGY STAR models.	Med	\$\$
Upgrade your HVAC system to a higher efficiency, ENERGY STAR labeled system (High SEER). Consider a heat pump system and make sure the system is properly sized for the space.	High	\$\$\$\$
SEAL THE LEAKS AND ATTIC		
Seal gaps with caulk, weather stripping, and/or foam around windows, vents, doors, and areas where electrical and plumbing penetrate walls. Install foam gaskets behind electrical outlets and wall switch covers.	Low	\$\$
If you have a vented attic, make sure the venting is adequate, and that the insulation does not block the soffit and/or roof gable.	None-Med	\$
Add adequate attic insulation. (Go to https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/weatherize/insulation/types-insulation)	Med - High	\$\$-\$\$\$\$
KITCHEN AND BATHROOM		
Turn off the water when brushing teeth or scrubbing dishes.	None	\$
Run the dishwasher on full loads and use the air-dry option.	None	\$\$\$
Use the right sized pot on the stove and match the pot to the burner size.	None	\$
Let foods cool down before putting them in the refrigerator or freezer.	None	\$
Install WaterSense labeled showerheads and faucet aerators to save both water and water heating costs.	Low	\$\$
Check for and fix all water leaks, including faucets and toilets.	Low	\$\$
LAUNDRY ROOM		
Select the proper water level on your washer to match load size, and wash in cold water when possible.	None	\$\$

Annual Savings Levels: \$ < \$10/yr; \$\$ - up to \$50/yr; \$\$\$ - up to \$100/yr; \$\$\$\$ - > \$100/yr

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Use the moisture detection setting on the dryer so that you don't run the dryer longer than necessary. Clean the lint trap after every load.	None	\$\$\$
Dry full loads or reduce the drying time for partial loads. Air dry clothes when possible.	None	\$\$
When replacing your washer and dryer, choose ENERGY STAR rated units.	Med	\$\$\$
WATER HEATER		
It is recommended to keep your water heater's temperature setting at 120 degrees Fahrenheit.	None	\$\$
If you have an older model electric water heater, place an insulating blanket around it (available at any home improvement store).	Low	\$\$
When replacing your water heater, consider an ENERGY STAR rated unit.	High	\$\$\$\$
INSIDE THE HOME- GENERAL		
Use the power management setting on multi-function devices (printer, fax, copier, scanner), computer, and monitor.	None	\$
Use a "smart" power strip as a central shut-off switch for electronics when not in use.	Low	\$\$\$\$
When buying electronics, look for the ENERGY STAR label.	Med	\$
OUTSIDE THE HOME		
Adjust your irrigation controller watering schedule when seasonal temperatures change (less water needed in cooler weather).	None	\$
Use a rain barrel to harvest rainwater for irrigation and other outdoor water uses.	Low	\$
Use a shutoff nozzle on your hose. Water slowly to avoid runoff.	Low	\$
Plant native, bay-friendly plants in your yard to minimize the water and fertilizer required.	Low	\$
TRANSPORTATION		
Keep the tires on your car properly inflated to improve gas mileage.	None	\$\$
Take Sarasota County Area Transit and/or carpool to save money on gas, parking, and auto maintenance.	Low	\$\$\$
Check and replace car air filters regularly to improve gas mileage.	Low	\$

UF/IFAS EXTENSION SARASOTA COUNTY

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