

Cold weather weatherization tips:

Tips to protect your home from the outside elements including snow, rain and cold weather.

As the cold weather months approach, weatherization will reduce your home's energy consumption and save you both energy and money.



REPLACE FILTERS. Install a new furnace filter to improve indoor air quality and help your HVAC system work more efficiently and use less energy. Use the change schedule recommended by the filter manufacturer. Have a ductless heat pump? Be sure to clean it regularly per the manufacturer.



WRAP YOUR WATER HEATER. Insulation blankets help keep the water in older water heater tanks warm and reduce energy lost during the water-heating process. Uninsulated water heater tanks or those valued at less than R-24 lose heat and are less efficient. Please note: newer water heaters with higher R-values should not be insulated.



INSTALL A DOOR SWEEP. Add door sweeps to the bottom of exterior doors to provide a tight seal against drafts and keep out the cold and moisture.



FEEL FOR AIR. Use a lit incense stick or smoke pencil to check for air leaks where plumbing, ducting or wiring come through walls or floors. Seal with caulk or spray foam to keep unwanted drafts and moisture out of indoor spaces.



TAKE COVER. Cover interior windows with insulating film as a quick alternative for keeping drafts and moisture at bay. The film can be purchased from hardware stores or online, and installed using common household tools.



SEAL YOUR SWITCHES. Surprisingly, outlets and light switches on outside walls can be a source of unwanted drafts and heat loss. Inexpensive outlet and switch-sealing gaskets can improve weatherization and stop outside air infiltration.

Contact your local utility for more information on how to weatherize your home for winter.

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