



## Egremont Green Committee

### TIPS TO HELP YOU SAVE ENERGY & MONEY THIS HEATING SEASON!



\*Be sure you are part of Egremont's Community Aggregation for lower electricity rates. Look for Dynegy Energy on your bill. If not, register at <https://colonialpowergroup.com/egremont/>

\*Get a FREE home energy audit from Mass Saves. The audit will show where heat is escaping from your home and where cold air is entering, along with many other energy-saving tips. <https://www.masssave.com/saving/energy-assessments/what-is-a-home-energy-assessment>

\*Close and latch windows. Insulate them using thin plastic window kits, bubble wrap, or indoor storm windows.

\*Insulate doors. Use door draft stoppers, weatherstripping, and adjust thresholds to eliminate gaps.

\*Turn your thermostat down in winter to 66 degrees. Experts say you can save 1% for each degree you set your thermostat down for 8 hours.

\*Wear warm clothing indoors including long underwear.

\*Turn thermostat down before bedtime and when you are out for the day. Be sure pets have a warm place to sleep.

\*Warm food and beverages are a great way to warm up.

\*Air-dry laundry rather than using the electric dryer.

\*Turn ceiling fan on low and clockwise to gently redistribute the hot air from the ceiling area.

\*Buy thick curtains and shades to keep warm air inside.

\*When the sun is out, open curtains and shades to let the sunlight passively heat the room.

\*Open register vents fully and be sure furniture or other items don't block the heat register vents.

\*Close heat register vents and shut doors in unused rooms.

\*Install a smart thermostat for automatic and programmable temperature.

\*Replace furnace and heat pump filters regularly. Have furnace inspected and serviced each year for peak performance.

\*Turn down water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

\*Wrap hot water heater in insulating jacket.

\*When it's time to replace a hot water heater, consider a hybrid which uses room air to heat water.

\*Close fireplace damper when not in use. Upgrade fireplace with energy-efficient inserts.

\*Check attic insulation for 11" of fiberglass insulation. Be sure to seal any cracks in attic floor before adding more insulation.

\*Install an attic-door insulation cover if you have drop-down stairs for attic access.

\*Wrap ductwork. Heating systems lose heat into attics and basements through the ductwork. Wrap those ducts with foil-faced insulation to reduce the amount of heat loss.

\*Don't let kitchen exhaust fan run longer than needed.

\*Try using a humidifier, as humid air feels warmer than dry.

\*Use a modern, safe space heater for site-specific warming.

\*Insulate electrical outlets using foam insulator gaskets, and then add child-safety plugs to cover plug holes.

\*Use LEDs for holiday lights. They use 75% less energy than standard incandescent lights and last 25 times longer.

\*Consider replacing an old furnace with high-efficiency heat pumps. The older your furnace is, the less efficient it is.

\*Insulate water pipes to raise water temperature by 2 to 4 degrees. Pipes deliver hotter water and provide less waiting time for hot water to arrive.

For complete tip details, go to <https://www.egremont-ma.gov/190/Green-Committee>