



Look for Gas Savings As Easy As 1-2-3 Save Energy in Your Home

The federal government is predicting higher natural gas prices nationwide this winter. While PG&E is doing all it can to minimize the impact this will have on your utility bill, we also want to provide you with some tips and tools to help you lower your energy costs.

PG&E offers **1**. No Cost Energy Saving Tips Everyone Can Do **2** Low Cost Home Improvement Actions, and **3** Investments You Can Make to Save Energy. *One of the many ways PG&E is here to serve you.*



No Cost Energy Saving Tips

- When using your furnace, set your thermostat at 68 degrees or lower during the day, health permitting. Set your thermostat at 55 degrees for the night, or when you will be away for more than four hours. Save up to **5-10%** of heating costs. Clean or replace furnace filters monthly during operating season. Keep your furnace clean, lubricated and properly adjusted.
- In winter, open drapes on sunny days to help warm the rooms.
- Do only full loads when using the clothes washer and dryer. Wash in cold water. Clean the dryer lint trap after each use. Or, line dry your clothes.
- If you heat your pool with natural gas, be sure to use a pool cover.

- Water heater: Lower the water heater temperature to 120 degrees. With a dishwasher, set at 140 degrees, unless the dishwasher has its own heating element. Wash only full loads in the dishwasher. Use the energy saver, air-dry cycle, or if allowed, open the door and let dishes dry naturally.
- Do not preheat your oven. Cook complete meals of several dishes simultaneously in the oven. Use the microwave when possible.
- Close the damper when not using the fireplace. Turn your heater(s) down when using your fireplace.



Low Cost Home Improvement Actions

- Install energy-saving showerheads and faucet aerators in your home. You will reduce hot water use and water heating costs by **10-16%** without affecting comfort.
- Caulk windows, doors, pipes, and anywhere air leaks in and out. Use weather stripping around windows, doors and pipes. Save up to **10%** on heating costs. To seal ducts, use mastic sealants not cloth duct tape.
- Plug gaps around pipes, fans and vents that go through walls, ceilings and floors from heated to unheated spaces.



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company™**

- Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat to prevent unnecessary heating or cooling.
Receive a PG&E \$20 Rebate
- Fix defective plumbing or dripping faucets. Water faucet drips cost energy and water loss up to 212 gallons a month.
- Wrap your older model water heater with a water heater blanket, especially if it's in an unheated area. Wrap the pipes for additional savings.
- Keep swimming pool cleaning and heating equipment clean and lubricated. Reduce pool water temperature and the number of months you heat your pool. Pool covers save energy and money. **70%** of pool heat loss is by evaporation.

3 Investments You Can Make to Save Energy

- Clothes Washer: Purchase a new ENERGY STAR-qualified energy-efficient washer if your model is ten years old or older. It will use one third of the energy of your older clothes washer. **Receive a PG&E \$75 Rebate**
- Dishwasher: ENERGY STAR-qualified dishwashers save energy by using both improved technology for the primary wash cycle, and by using less hot water.
Receive a PG&E \$75 Rebate
- Get your ducts tested for air leakage. Leaking ducts can reduce the efficiency of your heating or cooling system by up to **20%**.
- Replace your furnace if ten years old or older with an ENERGY STAR natural gas model.
Receive a PG&E \$200 Rebate
- Insulate ceilings to R-30 standards if your attic is less than R-19. Save up to **25%** on heating costs.
Receive a PG&E \$0.15 Rebate per square foot
- Insulate walls, floors and ductwork.
- When changing out old windows, buy new high performance ones. Look for the NFRC label and choose a product with U-factor of 0.40 or less and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient of 0.40 or less and Visible Light. Transmittance of 0.60 or higher.
Receive a PG&E \$0.50 Rebate per square foot

- Replace water heaters if ten years old or older. Buy a gas water heater with Energy Factor of .60 or higher. Buy an electric water heater with Energy Factor of .91 or higher.
Receive a PG&E \$40 Rebate

More Information

Pacific Gas and Electric Company is doing everything possible to keep natural gas prices as low as possible this winter. PG&E buys gas at wholesale prices and then delivers it to customers without marking up the cost. Nationwide, natural gas prices have been volatile because the growing demand for gas has not been matched by increased production.

In addition to reducing your natural gas use through conservation and by using energy efficient appliances, PG&E offers several bill payment options to assist you. PG&E's Balanced Payment Plan eliminates big swings in your utility bills by averaging your energy costs over the year.

Low-income customers may also qualify for PG&E's REACH and CARE programs. REACH provides a one-time financial gift for customers who are behind in their bill. CARE gives a 20% discount each month on natural gas and electric rates.

Find out how much energy your appliances and heating systems use. Fill out the simple home survey at **www.pge.com/energysurvey** to get a clear understanding of the actual energy use in your home. For a fast answer about your energy use, try our "Energy Calculator" at **www.pge.com/calculator**. The calculator is updated with the latest gas and electric rates, so it can give you accurate and timely information.

For 2003 qualifying product specifications and rebates requirements, visit **www.pge.com/foryourhome**. Act now, funds are limited.

To receive a rebate on gas specific measures, you must be a PG&E gas customer.

Call PG&E's Smarter Energy Line at **1.800.933-9555**.

If you are in the market for a new energy-efficient home, look for an ENERGY STAR home. For information on participating developments, visit our web site at **www.pge.com/newhomes**



Visit **www.pge.com/foryourhome!**