



CLIMATE ACTION for West Oxfordshire

Low-Cost Ways to Save Energy in your Home

No-cost measures:

1. Turn off the lights in unoccupied rooms.
2. Turn down your thermostat down by just 1°C as this may save you up to 10% on heating bills over the course of a year.
3. Turn off electric devices overnight and during the day as opposed to leaving them on standby.
4. Only wash your clothes when your machine is full and, where possible, wash clothes at a lower temperature.
5. Avoid drying clothes on the radiator (this reduces the amount of heat released into the room) and air-dry them as opposed to using a tumble drier.
6. Keep the fridge/freezer shut and full of goods as this uses less energy to keep the inside cold.
7. Be efficient when cooking: use lids for pots and boil food in less water.
8. Do not overfill your kettle and only boil the water you need.
9. Reduce unnecessary water use, such as turning off the tap when you are brushing your teeth and showering as opposed to taking a bath.
10. Draw your curtains in early evening as opposed to night to avoid heat loss in bedrooms and other living areas.

Low cost measures:

1. Replace all filament or halogen light bulbs with energy saving high-efficiency LED bulbs as this may save you as much as £10 per bulb per year.
2. Fit draught excluders to exterior doors, letterbox and keyholes. If you do this, be careful to ensure that you continue to allow for proper ventilation in your property.
3. If you have a hot water tank, ensure that it is fitted with an insulating jacket to keep the heat in as this may save you as much as £20 a year in your energy bills.
4. Insulate your hot water pipes (lagging) to prevent heat loss, which may save you on average between £5 - £10 per year.
5. Install thermostatic control valves so that you can turn off heating in unoccupied rooms.
6. Make sure your windows are draught proofed. If you are not able to afford double glazing, polythene films can be purchased from most DIY stores and can be fitted to windows to reduce heat loss.
7. Install low-flow showerheads and taps (aerating) to minimise the amount of hot and cold water that you use.
8. Buy a waterproof bathroom timer so that you minimise the amount of time that you spend each time you have a shower.
9. Hang thicker curtains to insulate your doors and windows at night.
10. Purchase a chimney balloon/open-close chimney damper to minimise cold draughts in winter and allow for improved ventilation in summer.