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## Home Heating Energy Saving Tips

According to Energy.gov, residential heating represents about 42% of your total utility cost. No matter what form of energy you use to heat your home or apartment, here are tips and strategies that can help you can save money and be more comfortable in the winter:

- If you don't have a programmable thermostat, install one or talk to your landlord about having one installed.
- Set your programmable thermostat as low as is comfortable in the winter and lower the setting when you're sleeping or away from home.
- Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month or as recommended.
- Clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed; make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
- Eliminate trapped air from hot-water radiators once or twice a season; if unsure about how to perform this task, contact a professional.
- Place heat-resistant radiator reflectors between exterior walls and the radiators.
- Turn off kitchen, bath, and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing; when replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.
- During winter, keep the draperies and shades on your south-facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.

The Nebraska Energy Office offers energy savings loans and weatherization assistance to help property owners cover the cost to make homes, apartments, businesses, agriculture operations, and local governments in Nebraska more efficient. Please visit the Energy Office website at [www.neo.ne.gov](http://www.neo.ne.gov) for more information.