

Hints and tips for energy saving in the home:

- Lag hot water pipes and fit a hot water tank jacket
- Install heating controls, such as radiator valves, programmers and timers
- Fit radiator shelves and foil sheets behind radiators
- Set your hot water tank thermostat to 60°C
- Take short showers instead of baths
- Have long heavy curtains across windows and close them at dusk and avoid covering radiators with curtains as this reduces their efficiency (tuck them behind the radiator)
- If possible avoid covering radiators with furniture
- Try turning your thermostat down by 1°C and see if it's still a comfortable temperature: the ideal range is between 18 and 21°C (turning your thermostat down by just 1°C could save you up to 10% on your energy bills).
- Switch your light bulbs to energy saving ones (they last up to 15 times longer than a conventional bulb and provide the same lighting for 1/4 of the running cost)
- Switch lights off when you leave the room
- Machine wash full loads at 30°C.
- Don't use standby on appliances- turn them off. Many appliances use as much energy on stand by as they do when they are on.
- Unplug mobile phones, shavers and electric toothbrushes once they are fully charged.
- Avoid leaving fridge doors open longer than necessary - keep the cold air in and allow cooked food to cool before putting it in the fridge.
- Place lids on pans whilst cooking - this reduces the cooking time and use the right sized pan for the food and cooker hob (i.e. try not to put a small pan on a large hob)

Further details on energy efficiency issues can be found at:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/housing/homeenergyefficiency.htm>. Alternatively contact Wiltshire Council Customer Services on 0300 456 0100, and ask for the Home Energy Efficiency Officer, or email housingrenewal@wiltshire.gov.uk