SIMPLE STEPS TO AN ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME

1. Run the dishwasher only when it is full.

2. When computers and TVs are not in use, turn off screen savers or put devices in low power mode.

3. Unplug your chargers when they aren’t in use.

4. Skip the dryer. Consider line-drying or rack drying your clothes instead.

5. When using the dishwasher, skip heated dry and simply open the door at the end of the washing to let dishes air dry.

6. Turn your microwave off when not in use and turn down its brightness setting.

7. Lower your water heater temperature: in most households, 120 degrees is a sufficient temperature to heat water.

8. If you have a second refrigerator, stop using it and unplug it. Consolidate food into one fridge.

9. Open your shades if it’s cold out to let the sun warm your home.

10. Avoid peeking in the oven while baking! Every time you peek, the temperature can drop 25 °F, making your oven use more energy to bring the temperature back up.

11. Use natural light when possible.

12. Turn off the lights when they’re not in use. Lighting accounts for about 12 percent of a typical residential utility bill.

13. Use an electric power strip for electronic equipment that you can easily turn on and off.

14. Turn off the oven or stove a few minutes before cooking time runs out. Your food will continue to cook without using the extra electricity.

15. Adjust the thermostat only to the desired temperature. Your home won’t heat or cool faster by cranking it up.