

Efficient Heating Tips for Renters

Below are helpful tips on troubleshooting common energy drains during the winter season! Typically, with cold weather comes a spike in your heating or electric bill. Following these tips will help keep you warm while saving funds!

- 1. **CHANGE YOUR HVAC FILTERS.** Dirty filters can restrict airflow and cause an increase in energy use. The best practice is to change air filters every 3 months at minimum. Keeping the air filter clear also helps prolong the life of the furnace.
- 2. **TURN DOWN THE TEMPERATURE.** Thermostats should be kept between the 60–70-degree range. The most effective temperature being 68 degrees in terms of energy saving energy. During sleeping hours or extended time away from home, turning the thermostat down to 55 degrees can also save on heating costs.
- 3. **USE YOUR CEILING FAN YEAR-ROUND.** Ceiling fans are helpful keeping the home cool during the summer but can also help push heat down during the winter months. Many fans have a switch that allows the blades to turn clockwise, pushing the heat down.
- 4. **PREVENT FROZEN PIPES.** In extremely cold (below freezing) conditions, keep your thermostat between 68-70 degrees. You will also want to leave a couple of faucets on a slow drip to prevent pipes from freezing.
- 5. **NOTIFY YOUR LANDLORD.** Winter storms can cause a variety of issues that can quickly become out of hand. Contact your landlord as soon as issues arise to help prevent extensive damage.