

# SRP HOME ENERGY CHECKUP

*You can conduct a simple home energy checkup to identify ways to make your home more energy-efficient. Follow these simple steps and advice to start saving energy and lowering your electric bills.*

## Outside Inspection – Walk around outside your home.

### Windows

- ☐ Inspect weather stripping and caulking around outside doors and windows.
  - ✓ Repair or replace if damaged.
- ☐ Inspect window shading on all windows that receive direct sunlight. Are window shadings in good condition and properly installed?
  - ✓ If windows are not shaded, install shading devices such as screens, awnings, tints and films, shutters or draperies, and trees.

### Air Conditioner

- ☐ Inspect your outdoor air conditioning unit for debris or other obstructions.
  - ✓ Clean or remove obstructions.
- ☐ If you have a package or rooftop system, inspect for cracks or gaps in the duct attached to unit.
  - ✓ Reattach and reseal.
- ☐ If you have an evaporative cooler, check to ensure the damper is closed when going from evaporative cooling to air conditioning.

### Home Construction

- ☐ Inspect utility wall penetrations such as holes around electrical, plumbing, piping, and communication wires to make sure they are sealed tightly.
  - ✓ Caulk or foam as needed.
- ☐ Inspect attic for proper insulation and ventilation. Is insulation missing or has it settled? Are all attic vents unobstructed?
  - ✓ If insulation has settled or is missing, add insulation. Recommended level of insulation is R-30 or higher. (10 – 14 inches).
  - ✓ If vents are obstructed, clear any items that are blocking the free flow of air.

### Garage

- ☐ Inspect doors between the garage and inside the home to make sure they seal tightly.
  - ✓ Repair or replace worn or missing weather stripping.
  - ✓ If possible, disconnect refrigerator or freezer if present in the garage.

### Swimming Pool

- ☐ Inspect your pool pump to ensure it is operating correctly, and check strainer baskets and filters to make sure they are clean.
  - ✓ Use a timer on your pool pump to control operating hours. Run your pump eight to 12 hours a day in the summer. If you are on SRP's optional Time-of-Use Price Plan, operate pump during off-peak hours.
  - ✓ Keep skimmer and filter baskets clean, and keep chemicals in balance.

## Inside Inspection – Walk around inside your home.

### Air Conditioner

- ☐ Inspect your air conditioning filter to make sure it is clean.
  - ✓ Replace disposable filters, or clean permanent filters if they are dirty.
- ☐ Inspect your thermostat for proper operation. Does the unit turn off when the desired temperature is reached? If you have a programmable thermostat, does the unit operate according to schedule?
  - ✓ Set your thermostat to 78° – 80° when at home; set it to 80° or higher when not at home. For every degree above 80°, you can save approximately 2% – 3% on your cooling costs.

- ☐ Have your air conditioning unit serviced by a qualified contractor once a year to keep it operating effectively. For a referral to a qualified air conditioning contractor, contact the Arizona Heat Pump Council at (602) 248-7767.
- ☐ Inspect air returns and supply grills throughout your home to make sure they are unobstructed.
  - ✓ If there is dirt on your walls, remove grills and seal any gaps between drywall and duct.
  - ✓ Do not close off vents or doors to unused rooms. This can actually make your air conditioner work harder.

## **Water Heating**

- ☐ Inspect your water heater for leaks, and check to see if it cycles on and off.
  - ✓ Set thermostat at 120°.
  - ✓ Insulate the hot water pipe from the tank to the wall.
  - ✓ Drain the water heater regularly based on the manufacturer's instructions.

## **Kitchen**

- ☐ Inspect your refrigerator & freezer. Check to ensure air circulation is unobstructed around units. Check to ensure door gaskets are sealing. Close the door on a dollar bill; if you can remove the bill without feeling any friction or tightness, it is not sealing tightly.
  - ✓ Clean condenser coils if dirty.
  - ✓ Replace door gaskets if necessary.
- ☐ Inspect your range & oven to ensure door gaskets are sealing.
  - ✓ Replace door gaskets if necessary.
  - ✓ Use exhaust vents while cooking, but turn them off when finished cooking.
- ☐ Inspect water faucets for leaks.
  - ✓ Repair any leaking faucets, especially hot water leaks.
  - ✓ Install aerators or low flow faucets.

## **Laundry**

- ☐ Inspect your washer and dryer. Check the vent to ensure it is attached correctly and unobstructed.
  - ✓ Vent the dryer to the outside to reduce heat and moisture in your home.
  - ✓ Clean the dryer vent of obstructions when necessary.
  - ✓ Dry consecutive loads, and combine clothes that require the same amount of drying time.
  - ✓ Wash as many loads in cold water as possible, and use the proper water level for the size of the load.

## **Living Rooms, Bedrooms and Offices**

- ✓ Keep blinds and drapes shut during the day.
- ✓ Use the energy savings settings on your computers and/or turn computers off when not in use.
- ✓ Do not close off vents or close doors in unused rooms.

## **Bathrooms**

- ☐ Inspect water faucets for leaks.
  - ✓ Repair any leaking faucets, especially hot water leaks.
  - ✓ Install aerators or low flow faucets.

## **Lighting**

- ☐ Assess the type and number of light fixtures and bulbs throughout your home.
  - ✓ Replace high-usage light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
  - ✓ Remember to turn off lights when rooms are unoccupied.

## **Fireplace**

- ☐ Check to ensure the fireplace damper functions correctly and is closed.
  - ✓ Remember to close fireplace damper when it is not in use.

***For additional advice to help you save energy and lower your electric bills,  
visit [www.srpnet.com/energyadvice](http://www.srpnet.com/energyadvice).***

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