



# Oil-heated Homes

## Ten Ways to Save on Cold Winter Days

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**1. Replace your furnace filters** – Replacing air filters monthly during the heating season with new filters improves airflow helping your furnace work more efficiently.

**2. Tune-up your furnace** – Tune-up your furnace before the heating season to help it run more efficiently. Ask the furnace technician for a furnace efficiency test. If it is operating at 70 percent efficiency or less, consider replacing the burner or the furnace with a new higher efficiency oil burner or furnace and receive a SHOW rebate of up to \$150. . (For information on rebates from the State Home Oil Weatherization SHOW Program call 1-800-452-8660.)

**3. Set back the thermostat** – You can save energy and money for every degree you lower your thermostat.

**4. Install a programmable thermostat** – A programmable thermostat can help you run your furnace more efficiently with different settings for weekdays, evenings, and weekends. SHOW customers may receive a rebate of up to 25% of the cost of installing a new programmable thermostat. Lowering your thermostat from 72° to 65° for eight hours can save up to 10% on your heating bill.

**5. Seal and insulate ducts** – Leaky ducts in unheated crawlspaces or attics can lose as much as 25% or more of your heat. The Department of Energy recommends use of a certified duct contractor to qualify the work for state tax credits and SHOW rebates.

**6. Seal your home** – Leaks in your home mean you are paying to heat the great outdoors. Sealing those leaks can save energy and money – and increase comfort. Many certified duct contractors seal your whole house as well as the ducts.

**7. Close dampers** – Open dampers in unused fireplaces can let your heat go right up the chimney. Closing dampers is a simple, no cost action that makes sense – but first make sure that the fire is completely out.

**8. Add insulation** – Adding insulation to your attic, walls, or over crawl spaces will make your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer and produce savings year after year. SHOW customers may receive a rebate of 25% of the cost up to \$500 to add insulation.

**9. Install compact fluorescent light bulbs** – CFLs use a fraction of the energy of incandescent bulbs. SHOW customers served by Pacific Power or PGE may receive four free CFLs from the Energy Trust of Oregon through SHOW.

**10. Buy energy efficient appliances** – Energy efficient water heaters, dishwashers, refrigerators, and washers can save a lot of energy and money and qualify for tax credits.

Oil heat customers on automatic “keep full” deliveries will have their oil tanks filled on a regular basis by their heating oil dealer. If you need to call to have your tank filled, don’t let the tank run too low. If your tank runs too low, sediment in the bottom of the tank can clog the fuel line and burner. You will not have any heat and will have to have a service call, costing you extra money.



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