

Tips To Decrease Your Utility Bill

- **Clean Your HVAC System.** It is important to have your HVAC system cleaned and checked out on an annual basis.
- **Change Air Filters.** Air filters on some air conditioning units require monthly cleaning or replacing. This will increase the efficiency of your cooling system.
- **Setting Your Thermostat to 78 degrees.** Every degree lower will raise your bill. Also consider a higher setting during the day when not at home.
- **Close Blinds, Shades, and Curtains** during the day to help keep cooler air in. Close air conditioning vents in rooms that are not in use.
- **Use Fans When Possible** – Ceiling fans, box fans and oscillating fans use lesser amounts of electricity to circulate the air. Also remember ceiling fans should rotate counterclockwise during the summer.
- **Unplug Devices When Not In Use** – small devices can still drain electricity even when they are turned off. Phone chargers use electricity when left plugged in.
- **Change Out Old Lights**– replace any incandescent bulbs. An LED bulb using 8 watts will produce the same brightness as a 60-watt incandescent bulb.
- **Wash Clothes In Cold Water** – washing machines are a big consumer of water and energy – limiting your loads of laundry and using cold water can save a lot. Wash in full loads and use the cold cycle.
- **Take Shorter Showers** – Showering is one of the top users of water, plus heating means that water also requires energy. Reducing your shower time will make a difference on your utility bill.
- **Wrap Your Water Heater** – Consider insulating your water heater if it is warm to the touch. Water heater insulation could reduce your heat loss and save you up to 16% of your water heating costs.
- **Pay Your Bill By Bank Draft** – If you are paying with a credit or debit card now you would save over \$50 a year by using a bank draft – there is no charge for this service at Greenwood Utilities.