

October 2022



Energy habits to break



Go paperless and win



Halloween safety

10 energy habits to break

Some habits are so ingrained that we don't even realize we are doing them. When it comes to the way we use energy, here are 10 habits to break from the Alliance to Save Energy that could save some money on your electric bill.

1. Leaving the lights on in an empty room. Turning them off when you leave a room will save energy and help your light bulbs last longer.

2. Burning old incandescent lightbulbs. LEDs are safer, more efficient and longer lasting, and they screw into almost any lamp or overhead fixture that you already have.

3. Leaving electronics plugged in when you're not using them. Plug your TVs, computers and phone chargers into power strips that make it easy to turn off multiple appliances at once.

4. Running an extra freezer that's empty. Unless you really need it for overflow from your main refrigerator/freezer, unplug it.

5. Holding the refrigerator door open while you decide what you want out of it. Staring into the fridge wastes an average of 7% of the energy the appliance uses. Decide what you want to eat or drink before opening the door.

6. Running the dishwasher when it's not full. Wait until it's full before hitting "start."

7. Choosing hot water for clothes washing when cold water will do.

8. Setting the water heater temperature too high. The U.S. Department of Energy recommends 120 degrees, not the 140 degrees that many water heaters default to.

9. Keeping the thermostat too high in winter and too low in summer—even when the house is empty. A programmable thermostat can be set to adjust the temperature when everyone leaves the house, returns home, goes to bed and wakes up. Just set the times and let the thermostat "remember" them. (If you have a heat pump, be sure to contact your HVAC technician to determine if a programmable thermostat is right for you. It is not recommended to change a heat pump's setting more than 1 to 2 degrees, so as not to kick on the auxiliary emergency heat mode.)

10. Forgetting to change the air filters in your HVAC system. Filters trap dust, pet hair and other airborne particles. Once they're clogged, your heating and air conditioning system has to work harder to keep your home comfortable. The harder they work, the higher your energy bills.

Go paperless and win

We are giving away prizes to celebrate National Co-op Month! During the month of October, if you switch to paperless bill notifications instead of getting a paper bill in the mail (or are already signed up for paperless bill notifications), your name is automatically entered to win one of the prizes shown! Paperless billing notifications must be set up through SmartHub. If you have questions on how to set up your paperless bill notification, please call (270) 765-6153 for assistance. Paperless bill notifications are not available to members who are enrolled in PrePay. It's quick, easy and free to sign up – AND you could win a fantastic prize! One winner per household. One prize will be randomly selected for each winner.



Our Co-op Month drawing for those on paperless billing includes the prizes shown: iPad mini, JBL speaker, Apple AirPods, Fitbit Inspire 2, Echo Dot, Ring video doorbell, Sony speaker and a Kasa smart plug.

Photo by Sarah Fellows

October is National Co-op Month

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Stay on the sidewalk.

Don't eat candy before
it is inspected by adults.

Look both ways before
crossing the road.

Stay with your group.

Wear a reflecting item
on your clothes.

Choose your costume
wisely - avoid masks
and wear bright colors.

Stay in familiar areas
that are well-lit.

Use flashlights and
glowsticks so you can
be seen.

