

WEATHERIZATION CHECKLIST

Fall is here, and it's bringing cooler temperatures along with it.

As temperature fluctuates between seasons, energy use fluctuates across all sectors as well—residential, commercial and industrial. The energy spike is driven by an increase in heating, the single largest user of energy in a home.

Help your customers conserve energy while keeping warm this winter by passing along the tips on our homeowner prep checklist for an efficient winter.

Preparation Tips

- ☐ Work with your utility to conduct a home energy audit or heat loss report. This can be performed by a professional or yourself with remote support if necessary. Assessing your home will provide an idea of where and how much heat is escaping from your home.
- ☐ Insulate non-insulated spaces like crawl spaces and attics to eliminate hotspots for heat loss. Standard fiberglass batt insulation is both effective and easy to install.
- ☐ Replace any air filters in your heating system to improve air quality and boost your system's energy efficiency.
- ☐ If you're comfortable doing so, hire a technician to clean and inspect your furnace or heat pump to ensure that it is working at full efficiency.
- ☐ Insulate your hot water heater with a specialized [water-heater tank insulating wrap](#) to reduce energy usage.
- ☐ Insulate hot water pipes to keep water hotter for longer. Water pipe foam insulation tubes, like [closed-cell polyethylene hot-water pipe insulation](#), are inexpensive and easy to install.
- ☐ Move large pieces of furniture away from heating vents to make sure warm air is heating your room, not your sofa.
- ☐ Reverse your ceiling fan to create an updraft which forces
- ☐ Seal all duct joints and seams with [duct mastic](#) or specialized [aluminum foil tape](#) to prevent warm air from leaking out before it ever reaches your rooms.
- ☐ Insulate outdoor electrical sockets by backing them with foam gasket tape to keep heat from escaping from gaps.
- ☐ Windows are the worst heat-loss offenders in a home. To combat this, install storm windows, or if possible, consider upgrading to ENERGY STAR®-rated models.
- ☐ Your chimney is a direct passage to the cold outdoor air, so check your fireplace damper to ensure it closes fully. Hire a professional chimney cleaner if you plan on using the fireplace or if it is required for proper damper functioning in an unused fireplace.
- ☐ Windows and doors are primary sources of leaking heat. Weatherize them by completing the following steps:
 - ☐ Fill outdoor gaps between the frames of door or windows and siding with [caulks or other sealants](#).
 - ☐ Use glazing putty to secure loose windowpanes into the frame.
 - ☐ Install [weatherstripping](#), [sweeps and door bottoms](#) to prevent heat loss in gaps between doors and frames.

Weatherizing a home is extremely important for energy savings, especially in cold climates. When performed properly, these and other weatherization steps can save a household an estimated 40% of their cold-weather energy use.

Visit us at amconservationgroup.com to learn more.
Contact us to help your customers start saving energy today.