



Thank you for taking action to save energy and money. Your energy saving devices are being provided in a reusable tote bag. Next time you go shopping you won't have to choose paper or plastic, use this bag made from recycled polypropylene (PP).

#### **ENERGY STAR® Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs)**

Lighting represents about 20 percent of your home's electricity bill. Switching from incandescent bulbs to ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs is the easiest step you can take to save on your energy bill and help the environment. We want you to begin enjoying energy savings right away. In exchange for your less efficient incandescent bulb, you are receiving a 60 watt equivalent 13 watt ENERGY STAR qualified CFL that uses about one-quarter of the energy to produce the same amount of light. This CFL will last about 10 times longer, produce about 75 percent less heat, which reduces cooling costs, and save about \$30 or more in electricity costs over the lifetime of the bulb. Installation tips:

1. Screw in your CFL by holding the ballast (the white plastic part at the bottom), NOT the glass tubing.
2. Dimmer switches, photocells, motion sensors and electric timers are NOT designed to work with this CFL.
3. Protect bulbs from the elements outside by placing them inside enclosed fixtures.

For more information on energy efficient products: <http://www.energystar.gov/>

#### **EPA WaterSense Low-flow Faucet Aerators**

Saving water saves energy, it takes energy to pump, filter, and distribute water. Indoor water savings will reduce demands on water heaters, another way for households to save energy. Faucets account for more than 15 percent of indoor household water use—more than 1 trillion gallons of water across the United States each year. Many older faucets use between three and seven gallons per minute. By installing WaterSense labeled bathroom sink faucets or faucet accessories, an average household can save more than 500 gallons each year. All products bearing the WaterSense label complete a third-party certification process that includes independent laboratory testing to ensure they meet EPA criteria. For more information see: <http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/index.html>

Your WaterSense aerator attaches to the faucet to reduce water flow to 1.5 gallons per minute at normal pressures. While this reduces the amount of water used, this aerator is designed to also make the flow more forceful to provide more effective wetting and rinsing.

Aerators are simple to install, requiring only to be screwed onto the faucet head. You don't need to turn off the water supply for this retrofit. The aerator is the assembly that water passes through as it leaves the spout. Dry both the spout and your hands before trying to remove it with your fingers. If it is too tight, then you are going to need to use adjustable pliers.

1. Close the drain so you don't lose any parts.
2. Place masking or duct tape around the faucet so you don't mar the finish of your faucet.
3. Remove the old faucet aerator attachment by turning it counter-clockwise (righty tighty, lefty loosey)
4. If there isn't an existing aerator attachment, remove the existing faucet screen.
5. Turn on the water to flush out the faucet, turn off the water to screw on the new aerator and hand tighten. Take care to avoid cross threading.
6. If your faucet is threaded on the inside, stack the upper washer on top of the lower washer and place on top of aerator before screwing it in place.
7. If your faucet is threaded on the outside, remove the top washer from the aerator to expose the inside threads and then, with the lower washer in place, screw the aerator on the outside threads.
8. Turn on the water. If your aerator leaks, carefully tighten in small increments until leaking stops. Do not over tighten.

If you don't feel comfortable performing any of these steps, contact a licensed plumber.



# Get Energy Smart Retrofit Program

## DO IT YOURSELF ENERGY SAVING KIT

### Smart Power Strips

Phantom load, idle current, vampire power; all euphemisms for the way electronic devices use and waste electricity when they aren't even on. This "smart" power strip has outlets that allow a main device (your computer, TV, etc.) to be plugged into the primary (marked "control") outlet and associated peripheral devices (printer/scanner or VCR/cable box, etc.) to be plugged into ancillary (marked "automatically switched") outlets. When the TV or computer is shut off, smart power strip auto-switching technology automatically shuts down devices that are not in use. When your TV or computer is turned on, this smart strip senses the current draw of the main device that your accessories are serving and energizes the outlets that power DVD players, printers, and scanners. A smart strip will save you from having to turn off all of the peripheral devices. Your smart power strip also contains always on (marked "constant") outlets for items such as clocks that you want to remain powered at all times. This smart power strip also filters noise caused by electromagnetic interference (EMI) and radio frequency interference (RFI).

### Rope Caulk

The average house contains cracks and gaps that allow both your heating and cooling to escape and outside air infiltration. A leaky house not only wastes energy, but can lead to water damage and provide an entry for insects. Rope caulk forms a flexible seal to stop air and moisture infiltration. Use on window and door frames, vents, moldings and walls, and almost any area in which you find a small gap or crack. Western and southern exposure windows facing the sun should be checked for leakage, the north-facing windows will be exposed to the coldest air in winter.

1. Thoroughly clean windows and other areas where the cracks and gaps exist; skipping this step can result in the rope caulk not adhering properly to the area.
2. Fill large cracks with flexible or expanding foam. Remove the rope caulk from packaging, the material itself is similar to clay. Measure the length of area (where the draft is coming from) on your window or other openings, and rip off pieces of rope caulk to fit this length.
3. Dip the rope caulk in a shallow pale of water BEFORE pressing into cracks and gaps - this will soften the caulk and provide a more secure fit in-between the window and frame.
4. Never caulk the little openings in storm windows. Their purpose is to allow moisture to escape and not condense on the glass.

### Wall Outlet and Single Flip Switch Insulation Gaskets

Additional energy savings provided by flame retardant insulating foam gaskets for installation behind faceplates of wall electrical outlets, and single flip wall switches to prevent air leakage and the loss of heat and cold through receptacles or switches. Installed easily behind the faceplate to seal off the wall cavity behind outlets & switch areas from the living space, these outlet gaskets/sealers will be invisible after installation;

1. Begin by turning power off to the outlet or switch at the main circuit panel.
2. Remove the cover plate using a screwdriver.
3. Install the foam sealer over the electrical outlet or switch. Remember to first remove the appropriate cut-out on the gasket for the type of electrical box (outlet or switch) that you are sealing.
4. Install the electrical cover plate over the sealer and turn power back on to the electrical outlet or switch at the main circuit panel.

The Get Energy Smart Retrofit Program is here to help local homeowners reduce the up-front cost of cost saving energy efficiency measures for their homes. This project is funded in part through the ARRA Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program- US Department of Energy.

For more information please visit: [www.GetEnergySmart.net](http://www.GetEnergySmart.net)

**Questions?** Contact the Get Energy Smart Retrofit Program Administrator below:

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