

UTILITY BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

2-1-1 Suncoast

211

Get in touch with a multilingual specialist who can direct you to local organizations that provide financial assistance.

Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

941-556-0234

Federally funded program that helps low-income families pay home energy bills.

FPL Care to Share

800-226-3545

Receive up to \$500 total over 12 months to pay FPL bill.

FPL Budget Billing

800-226-3545

Pay the same amount every month.

Salvation Army

941-556-0234

Receive water service payment assistance, plus help with mortgage, rent, gas, and electric utilities.

Sarasota County Government

utilitybill@scgov.net

Get help paying overdue bills with a 6-month payment plan while the county is under a State of Emergency.

Jewish Family and Children's Services - Suncoast

941-366-2224

Utility deposit assistance for veterans.

Caritas Ministry

941-366-5620

Emergency assistance for those with acute financial needs.

St. Martha's/Caritas 941-366-4210

Area Agency on Aging

(60 or older)

866-413-5337

Resurrection House

941-365-3759

Senior Friendship Center

941-955-2122

OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Weatherization Assistance Program

941-827-8227

Free, low-income qualified energy upgrades up to \$5,000.

Office of Housing and Community Development Rehabilitation Program

941-951-3640

Up to \$60,000 of 0% interest loans for owner-occupied rehabilitation program.

United Way

941-366-2686

Get connected to financial assistance through a highly trained specialist.

Sarasota County Energy Upgrade

941-861-5000

sustainablesarasota@scgov.net

Call for energy-saving help through in-home evaluations, energy audits, DIY kits, and classes!

The Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center

941-365-4545

Home to 18-plus nonprofit health and human services agencies that help low-income individuals and families.

Venice Trinity Presbyterian

941-493-0018

Venice Goodwill

941-441-0241

St. Vincent de Paul

941-444-9343

St. Jude's Catholic Church

941-955-3934

Lutheran Services

941-358-6330

UF/IFAS EXTENSION SARASOTA COUNTY

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ENERGY SAVINGS



Sarasota County households spend an average of \$1,200 on energy annually.

TURN IT OFF!

- Turn off lights, fans, and electronics when leaving the room. It adds up.
- Consider air drying your clothes.

BUY SMART, USE SMART

- When replacing appliances and electronics, look for the **ENERGY STAR**® rating.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees F for greater energy savings.

Pro Tip: Replacing five lightbulbs with longer-lasting, higher-efficiency LED bulbs can save up to \$75 per year.

SEAL IT UP

- Sealing leaks and gaps throughout your home with caulk, tape, or other insulation can save up to \$180 a year.
- Close exterior doors.
- Check that your refrigerator has a tight seal.

HEATING/COOLING

- 49% of home energy use goes to air conditioning and heating.
- Set your thermostat to 78-82 degrees F for summer and 65-68 degrees F for winter.
- Maintaining air conditioner filters regularly can lower your energy consumption by 5-15%.
- Close window coverings in the summer to block out heat.

BEWARE VAMPIRE LOADS

- When replacing appliances and electronics, look for the **ENERGY STAR**® rating.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees F for energy savings.



WATER SAVINGS



Sarasota County residents spend an average of \$850 on their water annually.

TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS

- Reducing your daily, 10-minute shower to just 5 minutes can save 7,300 gallons of water yearly.
- Use a low-flow showerhead for additional annual savings of 3,650 gallons!

FIX LEAKY TOILETS

- Leaky toilets can waste up to 200 gallons a day.
- Is your toilet running? Put a dye tablet or food coloring in your tank and wait 30 minutes. If you see color in the bowl, you have a leak.

Pro Tip: Replacing your toilet flapper is an easy fix for most leaks.

WAIT TO WASH DISHES

- Let your dishes soak in the sink or a dish tub to make cleaning easy and save 12,775 gallons annually.
- Using a dishwasher? Try running it every other day to save about 1,900 gallons a year.

WATCH THE WEATHER, WAIT TO WATER

- Follow Sarasota County's irrigation restrictions and water your landscape only once per week, providing ½-¾ inch of water.
- Every week you do not irrigate your landscape will save you more than 300 gallons per 1,000 square feet.
- Skip weeks where there is a ½ inch or more of rain and during the cool weather months of January and February.

DON'T SINK YOUR MONEY

- Shut off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Every minute your tap runs, you could be wasting up to 2.5 gallons of water.
- A faucet aerator can cut your use in half.



LEARN MORE

UF/IFAS EXTENSION SARASOTA COUNTY

**ATTEND
OUR CLASSES**

tiny.cc/ufsaraext_events

**VISIT
OUR WEBSITE**

energyupgradetoday.com

**SCHEDULE A FREE
1:1 CONSULTATION**

Call 941-861-9829

**REGISTER FOR
SELF-PACED CLASSES**

tiny.cc/ufsaraext_selfpace

GET YOUR FREE ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION KIT

Kits include LED light bulbs, a smart power strip, faucet aerators, low-flow showerheads, dye tablets, and more!

Customize your kit here: tiny.cc/ufsaraext_conservekit.

Contact us: call 941-861-9829 or email SustainableSarasota@scgov.net