

ENERGY SAVINGS

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



WATER SAVINGS

Sarasota County households spend an average of \$850 on their water per year.

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 F for greater energy savings.

PRO TIP: Replacing a lightbulb with a long-lasting, high-efficiency LED bulb can save \$15 per year.

Seal It Up

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

Heating/Cooling

- Air conditioning is the largest consumer of energy in Florida households.
- Set your thermostat to 78-82 F for summer and 65-68 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 Of “Vampire Loads”

- While plugged in, appliances and electronics can still draw power from the system.
- If replacing appliances and electronics, look for the ENERGY STAR® rating.
- Unplug electronics or use “smart” power strips to save unnecessary draw.

Fix Leaky Toilets

- Leaky toilets can waste up to 200 gallons a day.
- Drop a dye tablet or food coloring into your tank, wait 30 minutes (don’t flush!), and check bowl to spot leaks.

Take Shorter Showers

- Reducing your daily, 10-minute shower to just 5 minutes can save 7,300 gallons of water per year.
- Use a low-flow showerhead to save 2,700 gallons per year.

PRO TIP: Replacing your toilet flapper is an easy fix for most toilet tank leaks.

Wash Smarter, Not Harder

- When replacing appliances or faucets, look for the WaterSense label to save up to 700 gallons per year.
- Using a dishwasher saves water! Running a load in the dishwasher uses 12-25 gallons less water than hand washing the same dishes.

Don’t “Sink” Your Money

- A typical bathroom sink faucet when fully open pours 2.5 gallons of water per minute.
- Shut off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- A faucet aerator can cut your use in half.

Watch the Weather; Wait to Water

- Follow Sarasota County’s irrigation restrictions and water your landscape only once per week, providing 0.5-0.75 inch of water.
- Save 300 gallons of water per 1,000 square feet of landscape by skipping a week of irrigating.
- Skip weeks where there is a 0.5 inch or more of rain and during the cool weather months of January and February.

Get Your FREE* Energy and Water Conservation Kit

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

Customize your kit here: tiny.cc/ufsaraext_conservekit

** For qualified, low-income residents*

Save up to \$150 per year!

Learn More

Attend
Our Classes
tiny.cc/ufsaraext_events

Visit
Our Website
energyupgradetoday.com

Schedule a Free
1:1 Consultation
941-861-9829

Register for
Self-Paced Classes
tiny.cc/ufsaraext_selfpace

UTILITIES-RELATED ASSISTANCE



Sarasota County Energy Upgrade

311 (or 941-861-5000)

sustainablesarasota@scgov.net

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

Salvation Army—Emergency Financial Assistance Office

941-364-5547

southernusa.salvationarmy.org/sarasota/emergency-financial-assistance

Assistance with electric bills.

FPL Care to Share

941-556-0234

fpl.com/help.html

Receive up to \$750 total over 12 months to pay FPL bill.

FPL Budget Billing

800-226-3545

fpl.com/account/bill/budget-billing.html

Get predictable monthly energy bills by balancing costs across the year.

JFCS of the Suncoast

941-366-2224, ext. 115

jconnections@jfcs-cares.org

Utility assistance for members of the Jewish community who are experiencing short-term financial hardship.

Senior Friendship Centers

941-955-2122

friendshipcenters.org/service/resources-for-aging

Assistance to individuals age 60 or older.

Caritas Ministry

941-366-4210 / 941-366-5620

stmartha.org/caritas

Emergency assistance for those with acute financial needs or facing shutoffs.

St. Thomas More / St. Vincent de Paul

941-447-8950

stmstvincentdepaul@gmail.com

Financial assistance on a case-by-case basis.

OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT



Weatherization Assistance Program

941-827-2887

stepupsuncoast.org/programs/weatherization

Free energy upgrades for qualified financially challenged households.

Office of Housing and Community Development Rehabilitation Program

941-951-3640

homerehabassistance@sarasotafl.gov

Up to \$60,000 of no-interest loans for owner-occupied home rehabilitations in the City of Sarasota.

State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program

941-861-5346

herosq.net/ship

Up to \$100,000 of no-interest loans for owner-occupied home rehabilitation program for eligible Sarasota County residents.

Rebuilding Together Greater Florida

813-878-9000

rtgfl.org

Critical home repairs, energy-efficiency upgrades, and accessibility modifications to qualifying homeowners.

2-1-1 Suncoast Cares

211

211suncoastcares.org

Multilingual service connecting individuals with local financial-aid organizations.

United Way Suncoast

941-366-2686

unitedwaysuncoast.org

Get connected to financial assistance with trained specialists.

Caring Collective

941-365-4545

caring-collective.org

Home to 16 nonprofit health and human services agencies that provide resources and support to individuals and families in need.

My Safe Florida Home

561-640-6734

mysafehome.com

Apply for a free wind-mitigation inspection and grant support for recommended upgrade.

Habitat for Humanity Sarasota

941-866-2219

habitatsrq.org/critical-home-repair

Affordable financing options and grants for new roof, HVAC system, and/or hot water heater.



UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County

Energy-/Water-Savings Kit Request Form

tiny.cc/ufsaraext_conservekit

Salvation Army

Location Finder

salvationarmyusa.org/location-finder



UF/IFAS EXTENSION SARASOTA COUNTY

6600 Clark Road, Sarasota 34241 | 311 (or 941-861-5000) | sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota | sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu

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