

# Live Greener, Save More with Wyse Tips

Live smarter and more sustainably while cutting utility costs. Follow Wyse's Conservation Tips to go greener and save every month.



## Electricity Tips

- Plug electronics into power bars so you can easily turn them all off when not in use.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR label on light bulbs, home appliances, electronics, and other products.
- If possible, shade your air conditioning unit.
- Hold a ribbon or feather up to windows and doors to check for drafts.
- If there are drafts, use weather stripping or caulking to keep the outside air out and the air conditioning/heating in.
- Hang a damp cloth in front of a fan to help cool a room — just be sure it doesn't touch the fan blades or motor.
- Use fans to cool your home instead of air conditioners.
- Turn the thermostat down 10–15 degrees when you're not at home.
- Never turn a thermostat high or low to quickly heat or cool a home.
- Use smaller lamps to light work areas instead of overhead/ceiling lighting.
- Replace your incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs.
- Use a laptop instead of a desktop PC, as laptops can cost up to 3x less per hour than desktops.
- Use a printer with power management capabilities (i.e., automatic "power down" features).
- Make sure furniture, curtains, and rugs don't block the flow of air from vents and air registers.
- Clean the lint filter thoroughly after each dryer load.
- Dry full loads when possible, and for best efficiency, dry heavy and lightweight items separately.



## Water Tips

- Look for the WaterSense label on showerheads, dishwashers, and other appliances.
- Set the water heater thermostat to 49°C.
- Use cold water to wash clothes. Save washing in warm water for whites and hard-to-clean items.
- Defrost your food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.
- Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods.
- Reduce your use of the garbage disposal.
- Repair or replace leaking faucets.
- Install a booster in your dishwasher to increase the water temperature to 60°C.
- Make sure there are water-saving aerators on all of your faucets.
- Turn the water off while you brush your teeth.
- Start a compost pile or throw away any garbage scraps to avoid using water with your disposal.
- Designate a refillable container for drinking water instead of washing or disposing of several containers.
- When doing dishes, fill your second sink with clean water for rinsing instead of using running water to rinse.
- Keep a container of water in your refrigerator instead of relying on letting the faucet flow to get water cold enough.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Take showers instead of baths, and install a low-flow showerhead. Shorten your shower by 1–2 minutes, and limit them to 5 minutes.
- Minimize rinsing before loading the dishwasher. Most modern dishwashers do an excellent job of cleaning all by themselves.
- Repair toilet leaks, which can be detected by adding a few drops of food colouring to the water in the toilet tank. If coloured water appears in the bowl, the tank is leaking.
- Wait until you have a full load to use your dishwasher and clothes washer. Otherwise, use the right water level to match the size of the load.
- Plant a rain garden to add beauty to your yard, while absorbing and filtering runoff. Use a rain barrel to collect rain and help water your plants.



## Seasonal Tips

- Make sure furnace filters are changed twice a year.
- Drain a gallon of water from your water heater annually to clear sediment and boost efficiency.



## Remote Work Tips

Remote work and homeschooling are more common than ever, which means increased utility usage in your home. These tips prevent your bills from rising too much:

- Use power bars, but turn them off when devices are not in use.
- Unplug unused devices. Phantom power is still power.
- Most modern operating systems have built-in energy-saving settings that can be enabled and adjusted.
- Only connect your laptop to an outlet if the battery is low or charging.
- Use natural light or lamps to light your workspace.



## Summer Tips

- Run your ceiling fan counterclockwise to force the colder air down and draw hot air up.
- Keep the curtains and shades closed.
- Set your thermostat at 25.5°C and leave it there.
- Avoid using appliances that give off heat during the hottest times of the day as they will make your cooling system work harder.
- Do your cooking, washing, and clothes drying in the early morning or late evening.



## Winter Tips

- Open the curtains and shades to warm your home naturally.
- Run your ceiling fan clockwise to pull cold air up and force warm air down.
- Set your thermostat at 20°C and leave it there.
- Seal windows and doors with weather stripping to keep warm air in.
- Close vents and doors in unused rooms to save energy.
- Use draft stoppers at the base of doors to block cold air from sneaking in.
- Layer up with warm clothes before turning up the heat.
- Keep heat vents clear of furniture and rugs for better airflow.
- Use a humidifier to make your home feel warmer.
- Opt for LED holiday lights set on a timer to reduce electricity use.