



Energy Saving Tips

- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows that leak air.
- Set the heat to 68° (or as low as comfortable) when you are home. When asleep or away from home, turn thermostat back 7° to 10° for eight hours and save as much as 10% a year on your heating and cooling bills.
- Consider getting a programmable thermostat.
- Turn down the temperature of your hot water heater to 120°.
- Have an oil-fired heating system serviced annually or gas-fired heating system serviced every 3 years.
- Clean or replace furnace filters every other month.
- Keep the fireplace flue damper closed unless a fire is burning.
- Check that warm air registers, baseboard heaters and radiators are not blocked by furniture or drapes.
- Close your curtains and shades at night; open them during the day.

Other Helpful Information

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides eligible households with help in paying a portion of winter heating bills. Eligibility is based on household size, the gross annual income of household members and other factors. All eligible homeowners and renters, including households whose cost of heat is included in the rent, can apply at a LIHEAP agency in their area (www.mass.gov/hed/fuel). No fee is required to apply, and free help is available to complete applications. Households may also apply via the online applicant portal: <https://www.toapply.org/MassLIHEAP>

Heating Emergency Assistance Retrofit Task Weatherization Assistance Program (HEARTWAP) provides heating system repair and replacement services to LIHEAP eligible households.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) serves LIHEAP eligible households with air sealing, attic/sidewall insulation, weather-stripping and weatherization related repairs.

For utility company problems, contact the Department of Public Utilities (DPU)
1-877-886-5066 or DPUCustomer.Complaints@mass.gov

For limited income households who are **over income** for Home Energy Assistance, contact **The Good Neighbor Energy Fund**, operated by your local **Salvation Army**, 1-800-334-3047.

Source: FY22 Cold Relief Brochure, MA Dept of Housing and Community Development

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