



# You Can!

## Reduce Energy Costs



### Energy Saving Tips

- Caulk and weatherstrip doors and windows that leak air.
- When home, turn down the heat to 68° or as low as comfortable.
- When asleep or away from home, turn thermostat back 7° to 10° for eight hours.
- Consider changing to a programmable thermostat.
- Turn down the temperature of your hot water heater to 120°.
- Service oil-fired heating systems annually or gas-fired heating systems every three 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, radiators are not blocked by furniture/drapes.
- Close curtains and shades at night; open them during the day.

### Other Helpful information

**The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** helps all eligible homeowners and renters, even if the cost of heat is included in your rent, pay a portion of their winter heating bills. To qualify you need to make no more than 60% the state's median income level.

Apply at a LIHEAP agency in your area ([www.mass.gov/hed/fuel](http://www.mass.gov/hed/fuel)), via the online applicant portal ([www.toapply.org/MassLIHEAP](http://www.toapply.org/MassLIHEAP)) or call the DHCD Heatline at (800) 632-8175.

- **HEARTWAP** provides heating system repair and replacement to LIHEAP-eligible households.
- **Weatherization Assistance Program** provides air sealing, attic/sidewall insulation, weatherstripping, and weatherization related repairs to LIHEAP-eligible households.

**Good Neighbor Energy Fund** offers financial help with utility bills for households who don't qualify for LIHEAP. To learn more, call 1-800-334-3047 or visit [www.magoodneighbor.org](http://www.magoodneighbor.org).

**Many utility companies** offer discounted fuel and electricity rates and payment programs for people struggling with their bills. Some fuel oil companies will allow you to spread the cost of filling your tank over a 12-month period.

**Mass Save**, the state's energy efficiency program, will send someone to your home — whether you own or rent — to do a free energy audit. Mass Save can also help pay for home insulation, energy efficient windows and new heating or electrical appliances. To learn more, call 1-866-527-SAVE (7283) or visit [www.masssave.com/en/saving/energy-assessments](http://www.masssave.com/en/saving/energy-assessments).

Sources: FY22 Cold Relief Brochure, MA Dept of Housing and Community Development and [www.wbur.org/news/2022/11/03/heat-energy-utility-bills-help-relief](http://www.wbur.org/news/2022/11/03/heat-energy-utility-bills-help-relief)

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