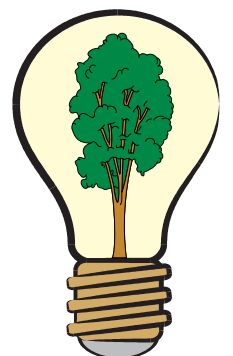




A Guide to Connecticut Energy Assistance Programs



A Guide to Connecticut Energy Assistance

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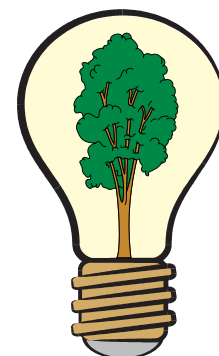
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Home Heating Assistance

CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)

State

Summary

CEAP provides monetary assistance for citizens struggling to pay heating bills. This program is available to renters as well as homeowners. It is administered by DSS and coordinated by Community Action Agencies.

CEAP offers basic benefits for homeowners and renters who pay separately for heat up to \$675 in winter heating assistance for 'vulnerable' households and up to \$635 in winter heating assistance for non-vulnerable households. Minimum benefit level is \$400.

CEAP offers basic benefits between \$240 and \$270 for renters whose heat is included in their rent.

Eligibility

The exact level of basic benefits is determined by your household's income, the number of members, and whether there is a 'vulnerable' household member. Households with lower income levels are eligible for higher benefits.

You are eligible for CEAP if the total of your annual household income and liquid assets* over \$10,000 is *less* than:

Household of 1 \$15,600	Household of 2 \$21,000	Household of 3 \$26,400	Household of 4 \$31,800	Household of 5 \$37,200
If you or a member of your household is at least 60 years old or has a disability:				
Household of 1 \$20,800	Household of 2 \$28,000	Household of 3 \$35,200	Household of 4 \$42,400	Household of 5 \$49,600

For More Information

1-800-842-1132

<http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=305194>

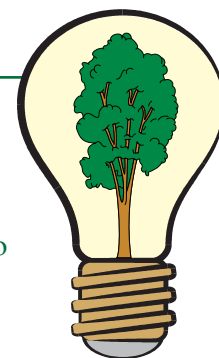
To Apply for CEAP

Contact 2-1-1

Or Contact your local Community Action Agency

- The Community Action Committee of Danbury, Inc. (203) 748-5422
- New Opportunities, Inc. (Waterbury area) (203) 756-8151
- Bristol Community Organization, Inc. (860) 582-7490
- Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. (860) 223-2288
- Community Renewal Team, Inc. (Hartford area) (860) 560-5800 or 1-800-798-3805; (Middletown area) (860) 347-4465 ext.223 or 224
- ACCESS, Inc. (Willimantic - Danielson area) (860) 450-7423
- Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (Norwich-New London area) (860) 425-6681
- New Opportunity for Greater Meriden (203) 235-0278 (sponsored by New Opportunities, Inc.)
- Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (203) 387-7700
- TEAM, Inc. (Derby-Ansonia-Shelton area) (203) 736-5420
- Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc. (203) 384-6904
- Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now, Incorporated (203) 899-2484
- CTE, Inc. (Stamford area) (203) 352-4846

* Liquid assets includes checking, savings, CD's, stocks, bonds, shares, certificates of deposit, and individual retirement accounts (if the accounts are in the name of a household member who is at least 59-½ years old). The first \$10,000 in assets is not counted toward annual household income.



Contingency Heating Assistance Program (CHAP)

State

Summary

CHAP is available for people who do not qualify for CEAP. CHAP provides basic benefit of \$300. Households that heat with propane or oil may be eligible for \$325 crisis benefit.

Eligibility

Households making less than 60% of the State Median Income and who meet an asset test may qualify for CHAP.

You are eligible for CHAP if the total of your annual household income and liquid assets* over \$10,000 is *less* than:

Household of 1 \$29,272	Household of 2 \$38,279	Household of 3 \$47,286	Household of 4 \$56,293	Household of 5 \$65,299
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For More Information: <http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=305192>

Operation Fuel

Non-Profit

Summary

Operation Fuel is a non-profit organization that provides heating assistance to families who do not qualify for government assistance. Operation Fuel provides a \$400 grant once per heating season.

Eligibility

Families who make between 151% of the Federal Poverty Level and 100% of the State Median Income

You are eligible to receive benefits from Operation Fuel if your annual household income is between the levels below:

Household of 1 \$15,315 and \$48,786	Household of 2 \$20,535 and \$63,798	Household of 3 \$25,755 and \$78,809	Household of 4 \$30,975 and \$93,821	Household of 5 \$36,195 and \$108,832
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For More Information

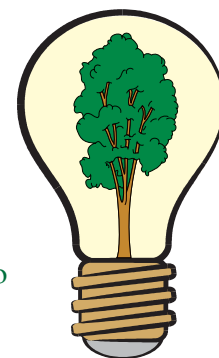
860-243-2345 www.operationfuel.org

To Apply

Call 2-1-1 or contact the Fuel Bank in your town. Fuel Bank phone numbers can be found at the website below.

http://www.operationfuel.org/NetworkCoverage_2007-08.pdf

* Liquid assets includes checking, savings, CD's, stocks, bonds, shares, certificates of deposit, and individual retirement accounts (if the accounts are in the name of a household member who is at least 59-½ years old). The first \$10,000 in assets is not counted toward annual household income.



Fuel Banks

Municipal

Many municipalities have fuel banks which can provide funds to help people pay for high energy bills.

For more information

Contact the fuel bank in your town by clicking on the link below.

http://www.operationfuel.org/NetworkCoverage_2007-08.pdf

Utility Bill Assistance

Public Utilities

Summary

CL&P, Yankee Gas, United Illuminating, and Southern CT Gas all offer programs to help customers who are financially challenged pay their utility bill. These programs include matching payment programs (in which the utility matches a payment made by you or on your behalf through an energy assistance program) as well as new start programs (which forgive a portion of past-due bills.)

Eligibility

Customers of CL&P, Yankee Gas, UI, and SCG who meet certain income requirements.

For More Information

CL&P

1-800-286-2828 <http://www.cl-p.com/online/residential/financial/incomeassist.asp>

UI

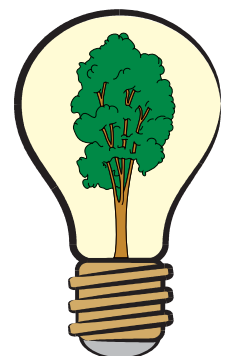
1-800-676-7052

https://uinet.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/uinet.cfg/php/enduser/popup_adp.php?psid=7oA_zl4i&p_lva=&p_li=&p_faqid=39&p_created=1141076625&pcF9zcmNoPSZwX3NvcnRfYnk9JnBfZ3JpZHNvcnQ9JnBfcm93X2NudD0xMjAmcF9wcm9kcz0mcF9jYXRzPSZwX3B2PSZwX2N2PSZwX3NIYXJjaF90eXBIPWFuc3dlnMuc2VhcmNoX25sJnBfcGFnZT0y

Yankee Gas

1-800-438-2278

<http://www.yankeegas.com/HomeCustomer/winterplan.asp>



Incentives for Improving Energy Efficiency in the Home

Room Air Conditioner Rebate Program

State

Summary

Between April 1, 2008 and September 1, 2008 CT is offering rebates between \$25-\$100 for the replacement of old room air conditioners with energy efficient models.

Eligibility

Room air conditioners that are being exchanged must be in working order. The new replacement units must meet Energy Star standards.

For More Information

Check the link below to find a participating dealer in your area:

http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/room_ac_turnin.asp

Central Air Conditioner Rebate

CL&P and UI

Summary

Both CL&P and United Illuminating offer up to a \$500 rebate for the installation of new central air conditioning equipment and heat pumps.

Eligibility

Must be a CL&P or UI customer and the equipment must meet Energy Star standards. There is a limited amount of funding for this program.

For More Information

CL&P: 1-877-947-3873

<http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/air/indexair.asp>

United Illuminating
877

<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Home/UI+Products+%26+Services/Heating+and+Cooling/Energy+Star+Rebates/>

Residential New Construction Energy Efficiency

CL&P

Summary

CL&P, through the Energy Efficiency Fund, offers incentives for individuals building new residential homes. The incentives allow individuals to install equipment and materials to make the home as energy efficient as possible.

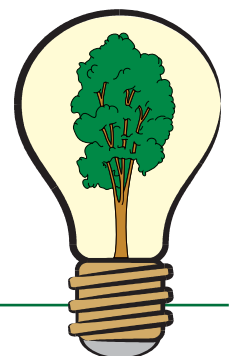
Eligibility

CL&P customers who are considering building a new home. The equipment must meet certain high efficiency standards.

For More Information

(860) 832-4754

http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/new_construction.asp



Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Energy-Efficient Products

State

Summary

The State of CT offers a sales tax exemption for energy efficient products. Energy efficient products include items such as the following-

- Windows & Doors
- Caulking
- Furnaces
- Insulation
- Programmable Thermostats
- Geothermal heat pumps
- Room air conditioners
- Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- Water heaters

Eligibility

Anyone may take advantage of this exemption.

For More Information

CT Department of Revenue Services (DRS) (860) 297-5962

http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive_Code=CT15F&state=CT&CurrentPageID=1&RE=1&EE=1

Home Energy Efficiency Programs

CL&P and UI

Summary

CL&P and UI both offer the Home Energy Solutions Program which is designed to assist customers in weatherizing their homes. The program-

- Any drafts or leaks are sealed
- Inspection of insulation to determine if it is sufficient
- Installation of energy efficient light bulbs, showerheads, and water faucet aerators.
- Installation of water heater pipe insulation

Eligibility

The program is free to customers who heat with electricity or natural gas.

For More Information

CL&P (860) 832-4700 http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/energy_solutions.asp

UI 1-877-947-3973 <http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Home/UI+Products+%26+Services/Home+Energy+Solutions/>

Low-Income Weatherization Program

Summary

Both CL&P and UI offer programs for low income customers to weatherize their homes and make them more energy efficient. The weatherization programs will-

- Install water conservation equipment
- Provide and install energy efficient light bulbs
- Determine whether the customer qualifies for energy efficient appliance replacement
- Detect and seal leaks
- Evaluate Insulation

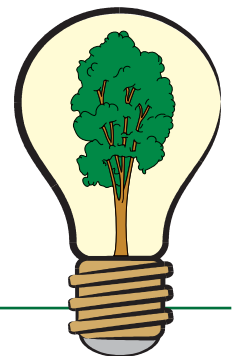
Eligibility

Any CL&P or UI customer who makes less than 60% of the Median State Income may apply. Both renters and homeowners may apply.

For More Information

CL&P 1-800-388-9727 <http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/wrap.asp>

UI 1-877-947-3873 <http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Home/UI+Products+%26+Services/UI+Helps/>



Weatherization Assistance Program

State

Summary

The Weatherization Assistance Program provides low income individuals help to make their homes more energy efficient. People who fill out a CEAP application will automatically be considered for this service. Call a Community Action Agency to apply.

Eligibility

CT home owners and renters making up to 200% of the FPL.

For More Information

1-800-842-1132

<http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=305196>

Connecticut Housing Investment Fund

State

Summary

CHIF provides low interest loans through the Energy Conservation Loan Program (ECL) and the Multifamily Energy Conservation Loan Program (MEL). These programs provide low interest loans to single and multi-family homeowners for the purchase and installation of energy efficient equipment such as

- Windows
- Roofs
- Solar Systems and Passive Solar Additions
- And more
- Siding
- Insulation
- Replacement Heating Systems

The loans are for a maximum of 25,000 for single family and 2000 per unit to a max of 60,000 per building for multifamily.

Eligibility

CT citizens who make less than 200% of Median Family Income. There are 0% interest loans available for natural gas, propane, and oil furnaces and boilers that meet certain energy efficiency standards.

For More Information

860-233-5165

www.chif.org

Furnace Replacement Rebate Program

The State of CT Office of Policy and Management is providing grants of up to \$500 for the replacement of natural gas, propane or oil furnaces and boilers that meet certain high efficiency standards. The furnaces and boilers must be purchased and installed between July 1,2007 and June 30, 2017.

Eligibility

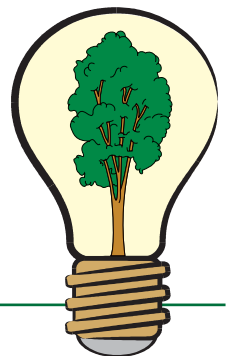
Income guidelines are at this link.

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/pdpd_energy/furnace_replacement_rebate_income_reference_charts.pdf

For More Information

1-866-940-4676

http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2994&q=420476&opmNav_GID=1808



Incentives for Installation of Renewable Energy Systems

Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Solar and Geothermal Systems

State

Summary

The State of CT exempts sales tax on the purchase and installation of solar water, solar space heat, PV, and geothermal heating and cooling systems.

Eligibility

Any property owner who installs these systems.

For More Information

Department of Revenue Services

(860) 297-5962

http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive_Code=CT44F&state=CT&CurrentPageID=1&RE=1&EE=1

Geothermal Heat Pump Rebate

CL&P

Summary

Through the CT Energy Efficiency Fund, CL&P offers \$500 per ton rebate (up to \$3000) for the installation of geothermal heat pumps

Eligibility

Anyone can qualify however the equipment must meet certain guidelines.

For More Information

<http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/geothermal.asp>

Solar PV Rebate Program

Clean Energy Fund

Summary

The Clean Energy Fund offers rebates to solar PV systems for generating electricity.

Eligibility

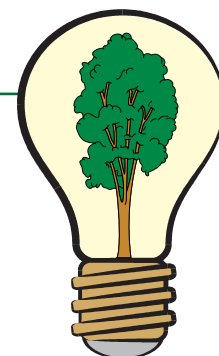
Residential, government and non-profits may take advantage of various rebate amounts based on the size and efficiency of their systems.

For More Information

Connecticut Clean Energy Fund

(860) 563-0015

<http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/default.aspx?tabid=68>



Property Tax Exemption for Renewable Energy Systems

State

Summary

The State of Connecticut allows for a property tax exemption for renewable energy systems that generate electricity for residential use. Solar water or space heating systems and geothermal energy systems are exempt from property taxes.

Eligibility

Owners of Class 1 systems that were installed after October 1, 2007, in single family or multifamily homes (up to 4 units), may be eligible for the property tax exemption. Class 1 systems include-

- Photovoltaics
- Wind
- Biomass,
- Hydroelectric
- Geothermal Heat Pumps

For More Information

Connecticut Department of Revenue Services

Phone: (800) 382-9463

Web site: http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive_Code=CT07F&state=CT&CurrentPageID=1&RE=1&EE=1

Solar Water Heating Tax Credit

Federal

Summary

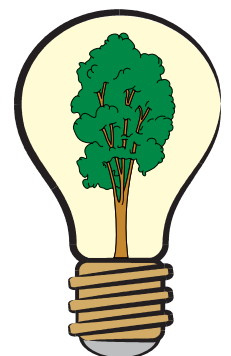
Home Owners who install solar water heating systems may qualify for a tax credit. The program allows for a 30% tax credit on the cost of the solar heating portion of the water heating system (up to \$2000).

Eligibility

The solar systems have to be placed into service from January 1, 2006 through Dec 31, 2008.

For More Information

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits



Tax Credits and Exemptions on the Purchase of Hybrid Vehicles

Sales and Use Tax Exemptions for High Efficiency Vehicles

State

Summary

Hybrid cars that get better than 40 mpg and new High Efficiency Vehicles with a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy rating of at least 40 miles per gallon are exempt from sales tax.

These vehicles may also qualify for a local option property tax exemption. Check with your local government to find out if they offer this exemption.

For More Information

Department of Revenue Services

<http://www.ct.gov/drs/site/default.asp>

Property Tax Exemptions for High Efficiency Vehicles

Municipal

Summary

Municipalities may establish a local property tax exemption for cars that get more than 40 mpg.

Check with your local government to find out if they offer this exemption.

For More Information

Contact your local municipality

<http://www.ct.gov/ctpportal/cwp/view.asp?a=843&q=257266>

Tax Credits for Alternative Fuel Automobile

Federal

Summary

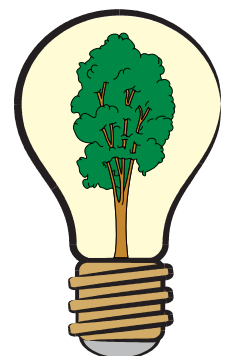
Purchasers of certain hybrid gasoline-electric, diesel, battery-electric, alternative fuel, and fuel cell vehicles may qualify for a tax credit.

Eligibility

Based on a formula determined by vehicle weight, technology, and fuel economy compared to base year models.

For More Information

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits



Incentives and Tax Benefits for the Business Owner

On-Site Renewable Distributive Generation Program

Clean Energy Fund

Summary

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund Offers grants for the installation of on-site distributed generation. Technologies that may be used to obtain the grant include PV, wind power, landfill gas, fuel cells and more.

Eligibility

Businesses and institutions that are interested in building a DG system of larger than 10 MW. Applicants must own the business or be a third party energy provider and must also be either a UI or CL&P customer.

For More Information

CT Clean Energy Fund (860) 563-0015
<http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/default.aspx?tabid=95>

Energy Conscious Blueprint Grant and Rebate Programs

CL&P and UI

Summary

Both CL&P and UI offer grant programs to businesses for making their buildings energy efficient. Grants are awarded for installing efficient lighting systems, for creating a high-performance building and for installing new HVAC equipment. UI also offers rebates to cover up to 100% of the incremental costs of the upgrades to high efficiency equipment.

Eligibility

All commercial/industrial customers of UI or CL&P, who are building new structures, or are undergoing a major redesign of an old building.

For More Information

United Illuminating
(877) 947-3873
<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Business/UI+Products+%26+Services/Energy+Conscious+Blueprint/Incentive+Structure/>

CL&P

1-877-947-3873
<http://www.cl-p.com/clmbus/target/indexconstruction.asp>

Capital Grants for Customer-Side Distributed Resources

State

Summary

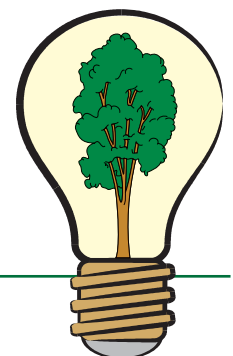
The Department of Public Utility Control offers grants of \$450 per kilowatt for the installation of DG systems.

Eligible

UI and CL&P customers who are interested in installing a DG system of 65 or less kw.

For More Information

(860) 827-1553
<http://www.ct.gov/dpuc/site/default.asp>



Energy Opportunities Program

CL&P and UI

Summary

The utility companies offer incentive programs for the installation and replacement of commercial and industrial equipment.

Eligibility

CL&P and United Illuminating both have specific equipment and building requirements.

For More Information

United Illuminating

(203) 499-2025

<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Business/UI+Products+%26+Services/Energy+Opportunities/>

CL&P

1-877-947-3873

<http://www.cl-p.com/clmbus/target/custom.asp>

Small Business Energy Advantage Programs

CL&P and UI

Summary

CL&P and United Illuminating offer incentives to small business owners to improve the energy efficiency of their buildings. The businesses will have an energy audit to determine the best way to increase efficiency. The business may also receive equipment to lower their energy costs.

Eligibility

Small businesses who are CL&P or UI customers.

For More Information

CL&P

<http://www.cl-p.com/clmbus/target/advantage.asp>

United Illuminating

<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Business/UI+Products+%26+Services/Small+Biz+Energy+Adv./>

UI Cool Choice Energy Efficiency Incentive Program

UI

Summary

UI offers rebates of \$70-200 per ton for the replacement of heat pumps and air conditioners with new high efficiency models.

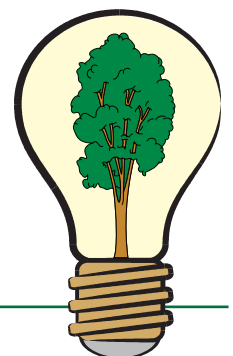
Eligibility

Commercial, industrial and agricultural customers of UI qualify for the rebates.

For More Information

(860) 947-3873

<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Business/UI+Products+%26+Services/Cool+Choice/>



MotorUp Incentive Program

CL&P and UI

Summary

The utility companies offer express rebates to businesses who are interested in replacing the motors in their equipment with higher efficiency motors.

Eligibility

Business and Industrial customers of CL&P or UI

For More Information

United Illuminating

<http://www.uinet.com/uinet/connect/UINet/Top+Navigator/Your+Business/UI+Products+%26+Services/Small+Biz+Energy+Adv./>

CL&P

<http://www.cl-p.com/clmbus/express/motorup.asp>

Affordable Housing Initiative Solar PV Rebate Program

Clean Energy Fund

Summary

The CT Clean Energy Fund provides grants to developers building single family and multifamily affordable housing to add a solar photovoltaic system. Developers may receive up to \$60,000 per project for single family and up to \$850,000 for multifamily projects.

Eligibility

The projects must be in CL&P or UI service area. Single family projects can be up to 10kw and multifamily can be up to 200kw. Contact CT Clean Energy Fund for specific equipment requirements.

For More Information

(860) 563-0015

<http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/default.aspx?tabid=101>

Mass Energy - Renewable Energy Certificate

Non-Profit

Summary

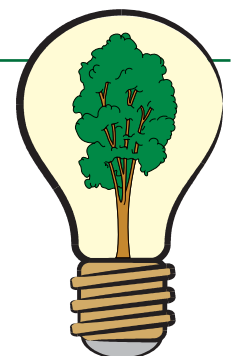
The Energy Consumers Alliance of New England will purchase Renewable Energy Credits from small PV solar and wind system owners for .03 per kilowatt hour.

Eligibility

CT residents who installed their solar or small wind systems after 1998.

For More Information

<http://www.massenergy.com/Solar.REC.Sale.html>



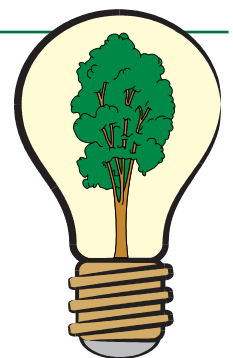
Conservation Tips

Heating Tips

1. Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable in the winter.
2. Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month or as needed.
3. Clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed; make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
4. Bleed trapped air from hot-water radiators once or twice a season; if in doubt about how to perform this task, call a professional.
5. Place heat-resistant radiator reflectors between exterior walls and the radiators.
6. Turn off kitchen, bath, and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing; when replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.
7. During the heating season, keep the draperies and shades on your southfacing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.
8. **Long-Term Savings Tip:** Select energy-efficient products when you buy new heating equipment. Your contractor should be able to give you energy fact sheets for different types, models, and designs to help you compare energy usage. For furnaces, look for high Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) ratings. The national minimum is 78% AFUE, but there are ENERGY STAR® models on the market that exceed 90% AFUE.

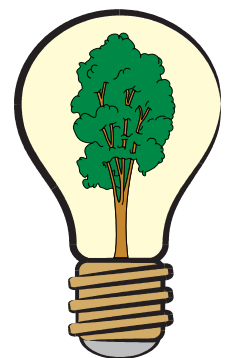
Cooling Tips

1. Keep air conditioner filters clean. Air conditioner filters should be cleaned or replaced once a month during use
2. Maintain unobstructed airflow around vents and filters
3. Maintain 78°F (26°C). For every degree you lower the temperature, the energy costs rise by 6%. A temperature setting of 75°F (24°C) costs 18% more; a 72°F (22°C) setting costs 36% more
4. Use a programmable thermostat. No need to run the air conditioner when no one is home. Set timers to have the air conditioning come on 30 minutes before anyone arrives home.
5. Keep doors closed. Enter and exit your home quickly to keep cooled air in the house.
6. Install a ceiling fan in rooms that are used often. Occupants feel as cool under a ceiling fan at 82°F (28°C) as in 77°F (25°C) still air.
7. Insulation is important. Make sure your home has the appropriate amount of insulation in walls, attics and crawl spaces.
8. Open windows at night. To take advantage of naturally cool night air when possible
9. Plant deciduous shade trees. Shade trees absorb radiant heat before it warms your house



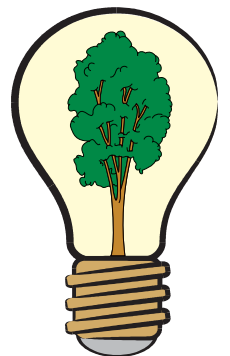
Tips for Appliances

1. Maintain the right temperature in your refrigerator and freezer. Refrigerators can use up to 20% of the total electricity in your home. The refrigerator should be set between 38°F (3°C) and 42°F (6°C). The freezer should be set between 0°F (-31°C) and 5°F (-26°C).
2. Keep them full. A full refrigerator takes less energy than an empty one. Fill extra space with gallon jugs of water placed in the back of both the freezer and refrigerator
3. Clean the condenser coils. Dust and pet hair can build up and cause the refrigerator motor to work harder. Clean them at least twice a year. The coils are located on the bottom or the back side of most models
4. The doors should close tightly and stay closed. Check the seals for cracks or worn areas. If there are any, replace them.
5. Open the refrigerator door as little as possible. Every time the door opens, warm air rushes in.
6. Let food cool. Don't place hot or even warm food directly inside the refrigerator. Let it cool first.
7. Always cover everything. Humidity escapes from uncovered foods. The compressor must work harder to remove the excess humidity.
8. Defrost food in the refrigerator. Instead of defrosting food on the counter where it may spoil, place it in the refrigerator 24 hours before you need it. This will help keep the temperature down in the refrigerator while it thaws.
9. Replace appliances with energy-efficient models. When old models wear out, replace them with appliances that have earned the Energy Star label.
10. Use microwaves for most cooking. A microwave does small and medium cooking jobs more efficiently than an oven or range top.
11. Choose the right pan for the job. When using the range top, remember to match the pan with the similar sized heating element.
12. Use all appliances wisely. TVs, radios, computers and vacuum cleaners use relatively small amounts of electricity. But they add up. Don't leave on appliances when they are not in use.
13. Wash only full loads in the dishwasher.
14. Wash clothes in cold water. Use cold temperature detergents, and always have a full load. Also, 15 minutes of presoaking and 5 minutes of agitation get clothes cleaner than 15 minutes of agitation.
15. Don't over-dry clothes in the dryer. Consider using drying clothes rack in the house or resurrect grandmothers clothesline outside during nice weather.



Lighting Tips

1. Switch to compact fluorescent bulbs in light fixtures used the most. The normal incandescent bulbs were all used to are not very energy efficient. Compact fluorescent bulbs use about 25% of the energy and can last 10 times as long.
2. Turn off unnecessary lighting. Get in the habit of turning off the light when you leave a room.
3. Use outdoor motion detectors and timers where appropriate. Instead of leaving outdoor lights on all night, let these handy devices turn them on when they detect motion. Position the sensor carefully to avoid false triggering. With motion detectors, use the lowest incandescent bulb that will do the job. If security is a concern, leave a low-wattage porch light on all night.
4. Use low-wattage CFLs where applicable. For example, bright lights are rarely necessary in closets and hallways. Switch to low-wattage CFLs and save some energy.
5. Dust off light bulbs. Dirty, greasy, smoky light bulbs can reduce light output by as much as 10%. Dust bulbs and lenses regularly. (Make sure they are cool before touching them). You will avoid the tendency of switching to a higher wattage bulb, which will use more energy.
6. Remove unnecessary lighting. Use only the number of bulbs needed to light an area. In track lighting, three bulbs can usually do the same job as four if they are positioned accurately.
7. Use light from windows. Natural light is more efficient than electric, not to mention free.
8. Paint and decorate in light colors. Dark colors absorb light. Light colors reflect light. The lighter the colors, the less artificial lighting is required to illuminate the area.
9. Use timers when on vacation. Not only will it save energy when lights are on timers, but burglars and prowlers will have no idea that you're away. Set your timer for different times on different days. Your home looks more lived in this way.
10. Install dimmers in areas where dimmed lighting makes sense, like the dining room.
11. Check your lamp shades. Many lamp shades are decorative but absorb light or reflect it in the wrong direction. Consider switching to a more efficient shade in a lighter color.
12. Use task lighting. If you're working specifically at a desk or work bench, other light in the room could be turned off or dimmed.



Workplace Tips

1. Switch to energy-efficient compact fluorescent lamps. They use about 25% as much energy and can last ten times longer, saving energy and replacement labor. Add occupancy sensors in rooms that are not occupied constantly, such as conference rooms, lunchrooms and restrooms.
2. Remove excess lights. Many buildings have more lighting than needed. In some areas, half the light may be sufficient. When removing excess fluorescent tubes, remember to disconnect the ballasts that serve them.
3. Install separate switches for smaller areas. Some businesses have dozens of lights controlled by a single switch, and not all are needed at the same time. Have an electrician rewire lights into smaller groups on independent switches.
4. Keep the heating and cooling to a minimum. Heating and cooling accounts for half of the total energy use in office buildings. Request the heat set at 65°F (18°C) and the air conditioning at 76°F (24°C), and use a programmable thermostat to set back the temperature at night, on weekends and holidays.
5. Shut computers off at night. A computer or printer can use over 100 watts of power. When replacing computers, purchase new energy-efficient models that use less energy.
6. Fax and copy only when really necessary.
7. Keep heating vents unobstructed.
8. Open freight doors only when needed. As soon as a delivery is complete, close the doors to conserve energy.
9. Use rotating doors. When a choice is available, use rotating doors instead of standard hinged or sliding doors. They allow less heat and air conditioning to escape.
10. Turn off elevators. On the weekend, in the evening or during holidays a minimum number of elevators likely will be adequate. Turn off extra elevators for annual savings.
11. Replace burned-out motors with energy-efficient models. Retrofit building pump and fan motors with variable frequency drives when possible.

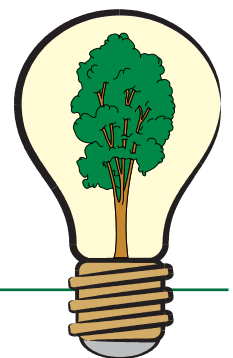
Water Conservation Tips

Fall and Winter

1. Insulating hot water pipes so you don't have to run as much water to get hot water to the faucet.
2. Eliminating drafts in your home and insulating pipes with commercial wraps to avoid frozen and burst pipes.
3. Using a commercial car wash that recycles water.
4. Winterizing outdoor spigots to avoid pipes from bursting or freezing.
5. Locating and tagging your master water shut-off valve to find it quickly in an emergency. This could save gallons of water and damage to your home if a pipe were to burst.

Year Round

1. Turn off water while brushing teeth or during other grooming activities
2. Taking shorter showers
3. Filling bathtubs to only half capacity
4. Running full loads of laundry and dishes.



Federal Poverty Levels (FPL)

4/1/07-3/31/08

Federal Poverty Levels are established by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. These guidelines are used to determine income eligibility for many local, state, and federal programs.

Annual income limits derived from U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/07poverty.shtml>

Annual Income Guidelines

<i>Family Size</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>125%</i>	<i>130%</i>
1	10,210.00	12,762.50	13,273.00
2	13,690.00	17,112.50	17,797.00
3	17,170.00	21,462.50	22,321.00
4	20,650.00	25,812.50	26,845.00
5	24,130.00	30,162.50	31,369.00
6	27,610.00	34,512.50	35,893.00
7	31,090.00	38,862.50	40,417.00
8	34,570.00	43,212.50	44,941.00
Each add'l person, add:	3,480.00	4,350.00	4,524.00

<i>Family Size</i>	<i>150%</i>	<i>185%</i>	<i>200%</i>
1	15,315.00	18,888.50	20,420.00
2	20,535.00	25,326.50	27,380.00
3	25,755.00	31,764.50	34,340.00
4	30,975.00	38,202.50	41,300.00
5	36,195.00	44,640.50	48,260.00
6	41,415.00	51,078.50	55,220.00
7	46,635.00	57,516.50	62,180.00
8	51,855.00	63,954.50	69,140.00
Each add'l person, add:	5,220.00	6,438.00	6,960.00

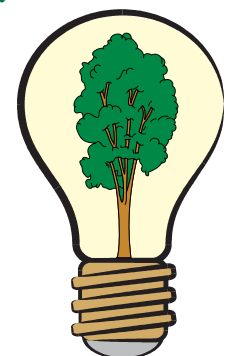
<i>Family Size</i>	<i>235%</i>	<i>250%</i>	<i>300%</i>
1	23,993.50	25,525.00	30,630.00
2	32,171.50	34,225.00	41,070.00
3	40,349.50	42,925.00	51,510.00
4	38,202.50	51,625.00	61,950.00
5	56,705.50	60,325.00	72,390.00
6	64,883.50	69,025.0	82,830.00
7	73,061.50	77,725.00	93,270.00
8	81,239.50	86,425.00	103,710.00
Each add'l person, add:	8,178.00	8,700	10,440.00

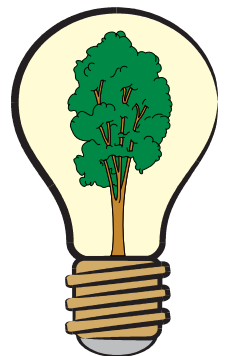
CONNECTICUT STATE MEDIAN INCOME: 2008

State Median Income is established by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. These guidelines are used to determine income eligibility for various local, state, and federal programs.

For most programs that use SMI for eligibility, the income chart is effective July 1-June 30 of each year.

<i>Family Size</i>	<i>100% State Median</i>	<i>50% State Median</i>	<i>60% State Median</i>
1	48786.92	24393.46	29272.15
2	63798.28	31899.14	38278.97
3	78809.64	39404.82	47285.78
4	93821.00	46910.50	56292.60
5	108832.36	54416.18	65299.42
6	123843.72	61921.86	74306.23
7	126658.35	63329.18	75995.01
8	129472.98	64736.49	77683.79





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