

Marietta



Power

Water



December 2013

Connected

*Marietta Power and Water
would like to wish you and yours
much happiness during the
holiday season and all year long.*

8 Cool Ways

to Freeze Wasted Refrigerator Energy Costs

With the weather now feeling much like an icebox, saving money on your refrigerator and freezer energy use may not have crossed your mind recently. But since cutting costs is a year-round objective for most homeowners, below are 8 tips to help keep your refrigerator and your budget humming along at their optimal efficiency:

1. Refrigerators and freezers that are more than 10 years old use two to three times more electricity than newer models. When purchasing a new refrigerator or freezer, look for an Energy Star® model that can save you hundreds of dollars on your electric bill over the life of the appliance.

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2. Use only one refrigerator or freezer. A second refrigerator can cost you up to \$120 in electricity over the course of a year. If you want to use a second refrigerator or freezer during holidays or for special occasions, turn it on one to two days before you need it.
3. Select the appropriate size refrigerator or freezer based on your household's specific needs. An appliance that is too large wastes energy.
4. Don't set the temperature colder than necessary. Set the refrigerator temperature between 36° F and 42° F and the freezer between -5° F and +6° F. A small thermometer placed in the refrigerator or freezer will help you set it correctly.
5. A clean appliance runs more efficiently so dust off the condenser coils, fins, evaporator pan and motor once or twice a year. Unplug the unit and clean with a vacuum cleaner or long-handled brush.
6. Refrigerator and freezer doors should seal tightly as a loose seal can cause your unit to work harder and use more energy. If you can move a dollar bill through the closed door, the seal is not tight enough and needs to be replaced.
7. Don't place your refrigerator or freezer in an unheated space such as a garage or porch. Unheated spaces can cause your appliance to work harder and cost more money to operate if the temperature drops below 60° F. Even worse, the compressor may stop running, causing the temperature inside the freezer compartment to rise possibly resulting in spoiled food.
8. Place the refrigerator or freezer away from direct sunlight and other heat sources such as ovens or ranges as heat will cause the unit to use more energy to stay cold.

For more cool tips on saving energy, visit the Marietta Power and Water website at www.mariettopowerandwater.com. 💧

5 Savvy Ways to Soak Up Savings on Your Water Bill

Taking care of those leaky faucets is only the beginning of conserving water and money around your house. Here are five more clever ways to keep your water bill from dampening your mood:

1. Install a heat loop or in-line trap that keeps hot water from moving into the piping system when you are not using hot water. Ask your plumbing contractor for details on these mechanisms that can be inexpensive to install.
2. Insulate water pipes with half-inch foam or pipe tape wherever pipes are exposed. On cold water pipes, insulate four to five feet from the water heater.
3. When purchasing a new water heater, choose an energy-efficient model. Consider a tankless or instantaneous water heater which uses energy only when hot water is needed.
4. Install water saving devices such as low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators to reduce your water use.
5. Check for toilet leaks by adding a few drops of food coloring or toilet tablets to the tank and wait 15 minutes. If the toilet is leaking, the water in the bowl will change color. Even a small leak can send hundreds of gallons down the drain.

For more tips on reducing your water bill, visit the Marietta Power and Water website at www.mariettopowerandwater.com. 💧

Calendar

Tuesday, December 31

New Years Eve Concert
The Jagged Stones

9 p.m.

For more information visit www.earlsmithstrand.org or call (770) 293-0080.

Tuesday, January 14

Yoga on the Square

Noon until 12:45 p.m.

Glover Park in Marietta Square

If the weather is bad, the event will be moved to the Lawrence Street Recreation Center, 500 Lawrence St.

For more information call (770) 956-7827.

Saturdays

Marietta Square Farmers Market

8 a.m. until noon

Marietta Square

For more information visit www.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.net or call (770) 499-9393.

Marietta Power and Water will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day.

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit www.mariettaga.gov and click on Calendar of Events.

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