



# Connected

## Save on Your Heating Bill this Winter

While upgrading your heating system to a new, energy-efficient system is the best way to lower your winter heating bills, here are a few ways you can make the most out of your current heating system.

- **Perform Standard Maintenance.**

Replace your air filters regularly based on the manufacturer's guidelines and periodically have your system inspected and cleaned by a qualified professional.

- **Install Curtains and Shades.**

Open shades and curtains during the day on south-facing walls to let in warm sunlight and close them at night to keep in heat.

- **Inspect Windows and Doors.**

Check windows and exterior doors for gaps and install weather stripping if needed.

- **Check Attic Insulation.** Inspect

the insulation in your attic and make sure your home is insulated based on the recommended levels suggested in your area for your type of home.

Want to learn how to save even more on your heating bill? An energy audit is a great way to identify opportunities for improving the performance of your heating system and the energy efficiency of your entire home. For more energy saving tips, visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com).



**1 Install a programmable thermostat.** To operate properly, a thermostat must be on an interior wall away from direct sunlight, drafts, doorways, and windows. Programmable thermostats can help your home maintain an optimal temperature through a preset schedule based on when you are home or when you are sleeping. Programmable thermostats can typically store and repeat six or more temperature settings per day.

**2 Use power strips.** Most electronics use electricity even when they are turned off. By plugging electrical devices such as TV's, game consoles and computers into a power strip, they can be turned off all at one time.

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## Four Easy Ways to Save

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**3 Install a low flow showerhead.** Shower heads are measured by flow — the number of gallons they deliver per minute (gpm). Low-flow showerheads conserve water by mixing air with water to reduce the amount of water, but still feel like higher flowing fixtures. Low flow shower heads can reduce your shower water consumption by up to half.

**4 Seal air leaks.** Use caulk and weatherstripping to seal cracks and gaps around windows, doors, plumbing and electrical outlets.

For more ways to save, visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com) and click on the Customer Service link, in the drop down under Forms, Publications and Energy Guides, click on Residential Saving Energy Guide and fill out the online form to get your free copy. 

## Lighting Your Home

### Get the Same Amount of Light for Less Money



Replacing incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient lighting such as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), or light-emitting diodes (LEDs), is one of the fastest and easiest ways to cut your energy bills. For high-quality products with the greatest energy savings, choose bulbs that have earned the ENERGY STAR®.

#### What are my lighting choices?

You have a few options. The most popular light bulbs available are compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), and light-emitting diodes (LEDs). Although both kinds of lightbulbs can initially cost more than traditional incandescent light bulbs, they save you money by using less energy.

- **CFLs** consume a quarter of the energy that incandescent bulbs do and last 10 times longer. CFLs can be used anywhere you would use a typical incandescent light bulb, and should be recycled when they burn out.
- **LEDs** are a lighting technology that is long-lasting and extremely energy-efficient, but not efficient for all areas of your home. LED's provide directional light, not diffused light, making them perfect for task-lighting, such as under kitchen counters or over desk, but not for whole room lighting.

For more ways to save on your power bill, visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com). 

## Calendar

### Now through February 26

#### Winter Wonderland Marietta Square

The Marietta Square transforms into a nostalgic Winter Wonderland featuring open-air ice skating.

For more information, visit

[www.mariettasquare.com](http://www.mariettasquare.com) or [www.winterwonderlandmarietta.com](http://www.winterwonderlandmarietta.com).

### Saturdays Year Round

#### Marietta Square Farmers Market

Marietta Square  
9 a.m. until noon

For more information, visit

[www.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com](http://www.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com) or call (770) 499-9393.

### Saturdays

#### Marietta Food Tours

11 a.m. until 2 p.m.  
For more information visit  
[www.mariettafoodtours.com](http://www.mariettafoodtours.com) or call  
1-866-736-6343.

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit [www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov) and click on Calendar of Events.

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