



CITY OF BOSTON
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MAYOR

GREEN OPTIONS: APPLIANCES

When you shop for new home appliances, ask for ENERGY STAR. They use less energy, save money, and help protect the environment. Look for the Energy Guide to purchase the most efficient model for your home. For more information please visit www.energystar.gov.

The following are some of the more commonly purchased household appliances:

CLOTHES WASHERS

Green benefits: Compared to a model manufactured before 1994, an ENERGY STAR qualified washer can save up to \$110 / year on your utility bills. Today's models use only 18-25 gallons of water per load, compared to the 40 gallons used by a standard machine. They also extract water better resulting in less drying time.

Additional Info: Look for higher MEF (Modified Energy Factor) models, which equate to more efficient use of energy during the washing process. Look for lower water factor, which measures the gallons of water used/ cycle/ cubic feet. They come in front loading and top loading options.

Tip: You can save extra money by washing full loads and in cold water; air dry if possible.

DISH WASHERS

Green benefits: By replacing a dishwasher manufactured before 1994 with an ENERGY STAR qualified one can save you more than \$25/ year in energy costs. Energy Star models uses 25% less energy than the federal minimum standard for energy consumption.

Additional Info: Look for ENERGY STAR Certified Label

Tip: Run dishwasher in full load; avoid using heat-dry, rinse-hold and pre-rinse features. Instead use your dishwasher's air-dry option. If that's not available, prop the door open to dry dishes.

REFRIGERATORS & FREEZERS

Green benefits: Energy Star qualified refrigerators use at least 40% less energy than conventional models sold in 2001. Refrigerators use at least 14% of a home's electricity. Freezer models consume at least 10% less energy than required by current federal standards.

Additional Info: Models are available with standard features and setups.

Tip: Keep your refrigerator between 35 and 38 degrees Fahrenheit and freezer at 0 degrees Fahrenheit; Allow for air circulation around the condenser coils between the refrigerator or freezer and the wall and also keep the coils clean.

Check our web site for updated information.

ROOM AIR CONDITIONING

Green benefits: Replacing a 10 year old room air conditioner can save an average of \$14 a year. ENERGY STAR qualified room air conditioners use at least 10% less energy than conventional models.

Additional Info: Select model with a programmable thermostat.

Tip: Choose a unit that is properly sized for your room; Oversized AC is actually less effective in removing humidity/ moisture (wasting energy at the same time).

COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS

Green benefits: ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) use 66% less energy than a standard incandescent bulb and last up to 10 times longer. Replacing a 100-watt incandescent with a 32-watt CFL can save you at least \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb.

Additional Info: Consider replacing conventional fixtures with ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures. They last longer and use 2/3 less energy. Take the Energy Star Change a Light Pledge at www.cityofboston.gov/climate.

Tip: If you are unfamiliar with the best CFL wattage to use for your lighting needs, always refer to the lumen, or light output on the product packaging as your guide.

PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTATS

Green benefits: Programmable thermostats are more convenient and accurate than manual thermostats, and they improve your home's comfort. When used properly they can save you about \$100/year.

Additional Info: ENERGY STAR certified qualified models offer at least 4 convenient settings that try to anticipate when it's convenient for you to scale back on heating or cooling. Models come in three different types dependent on your day to day schedule.

Tip: Homeowners who work during the day and have a different schedule on the weekends will benefit the most from investing in a programmable thermostat. Consult with your local home improvement store to purchase the best model for your home.

green your home



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www.cityofboston.gov/climate