

OUTDOOR TIPS AND OTHER HANDY HINTS AND FACTS

1. Insulate your walls and ceilings. This can save 20-30% of home heating and cooling bills.
2. Tinted and double-glazed windows will minimise heat entering the house in summer and leaving the house in winter, decreasing heating and cooling costs.
3. Correctly angled eaves will allow the winter sunshine in and keep summer sun out.
4. A light-coloured roof will decrease heat gain, reducing cooling costs by an average of 23%.
5. Plant deciduous fruit trees to shade living area windows in summer and allow sun in winter (and to provide fresh nutritious fruit).
6. Cooler air from lush gardens planted close to the house can be drawn through windows.
7. During summer, the space between your ceiling and roof can reach 50-60 degrees Celsius. Also known as whirlygigs, roof turbines are lightweight spinning vents that suck hot air out from your roof cavity, reducing the need for cooling.
8. Up to 12 litres of moisture can accumulate in your roof cavity daily from bathrooms, laundries and kitchens, reducing effectiveness of insulation by making it damp. A whirlygig can help reduce moisture build-up, making insulation more effective, reducing heating and cooling costs and protecting timber frames.
9. Install solar panels to increase renewable energy use.
10. In NSW, approximately 65-80% of your hot water will be free of charge if you install a solar hot water system and you will save an average of 2-3 tonnes of greenhouse gases annually.

ABOUT COUNCIL'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

With funding from the Australian Government we have upgraded Lismore City Council Corporate Centre and a Council-owned CBD building with new technology to save on energy and reduce our CO₂ emissions.

At our Corporate Centre, we installed LED lighting and connected a Sterile-Aire UV treatment system to the air-conditioner. Combined with a new coat of heat reflective paint on the building, these upgrades will reduce energy use by 17%, decreasing our CO₂ emissions by 63 tonnes. This will reduce our power costs at the Corporate Centre by an estimated \$16,000 each year.

At our CBD building we installed a new, efficient air-conditioning system, reducing energy use by 41% and reducing CO₂ emissions by 14 tonnes. This will reduce our power costs at the CBD building by an estimated \$3500.

In 2014 we also retrofitted our public swimming pools with LEDs, solar hot water and variable speed drives on the pool pumps, upgrades that are saving Council around \$124,000 each year.

For more on Council's actions towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions, visit

www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.

This project received funding from the Australian Government.

Disclaimer:

The views expressed herein are not necessarily the views of the Commonwealth of Australia, and the Commonwealth does not accept responsibility for any information or advice contained herein.

EMBRACING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tips for saving energy at home



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Find out more at

www.yourenergysavings.gov.au/energy/energy-efficient-living

www.environment.nsw.gov.au





LIVING AREA TIPS

1. Lighter coloured paints which reflect the sun's heat are most suitable for warm areas, reducing cooling costs. Higher gloss paints have a similar effect.
2. Use light-coloured paint on your walls to reduce electricity needed for lighting.
3. Painting your ceilings with light colours reflects light downward, making the room more efficient so you can use lower-wattage lighting.
4. Curtains and blinds provide insulation to keep winter heat in and summer heat out. Change the way your windows are shaded both inside and out and you can keep your home cooler by more than 70% in summer.
5. Cooling cross-ventilation can be provided by having windows and doors on opposite walls.
6. Fans use a fraction of the electricity of the most efficient air-conditioner.
7. When purchasing new appliances, ensure they are energy and water efficient with a five-star rating for maximum efficiency.
8. Install LED lights for maximum energy efficiency and dollar savings, or compact fluorescent lights if preferred.
9. Install light sensors where appropriate to ensure lights are off when not required.
10. Turn electrical devices off at the switch for energy savings of up to 10%.
11. Turn off computer screen savers and install stand-by mode.
12. If your fridge is more than 20 years old, replace it with an efficient model to reduce your refrigeration costs by 60% and save approximately 1.4 tonnes of CO₂ per year.
13. Ensure your fridge is placed in a well-ventilated position to reduce heating.
14. Ensure your fridge seals are in good working order.
15. Set your fridge thermostat to between 3 and 5 degrees for safe energy efficiency.
16. Use your dishwasher only when full.



BATH/LAUNDRY TIPS

1. Low-flow shower heads and taking shorter showers will reduce your water and heating costs.
2. Ensure a full load goes in the washing machine to save on water and power.
3. Wind-dry clothes to eliminate drying costs.
4. If replacing a dryer, get one with a moisture sensor, which shuts off the dryer automatically when your clothes are dry, cutting energy use by about 15%.
5. Wash laundry in cold water to save electricity or gas used for heating water.