


Install a programmable thermostat and set your water heater to 120°



This action was featured in March 2011.

For this action, the Black and Gold City Goes Green challenges you to spend as little time as possible cutting back how much energy you use. Taking these two steps costs little to no time and money and will have you warming up to energy savings.

Set it and forget it: Install a programmable thermostat

Why keep your pad heated or cooled when you're not home? Programmable thermostats work around your schedule and are as easy to install as a light switch. EPA tells us that a properly set thermostat can save homeowners **\$180** per year.

If you're a Duquesne Light customer, enjoy up to [\\$50 in rebates](#) on new thermostats from their WATT Choices program.

CO2 savings per year: **1900 pounds** (gas heating)
 6800 pounds (electric heating)

Cool it: Turn your water heater down to 120°

In the time it takes to read this sentence, you could save 6 to 10 percent on your electricity bill by adjusting your water heater. Most heaters are automatically set at 140°, 20° higher than it needs to be.

Find [tips to adjust your water heater](#) from the Department of Energy.

CO2 savings per year: **250 pounds** (with gas)
 830 pounds (with electric)

