

Readying For Cooler Weather

After an especially warm summer, it can be easy to forget that cooler weather is right around the corner. To make sure your home is ready for the crisp air and chilly breezes of fall, read on and learn how you can protect your home against cold weather, reduce your energy usage, and help neighbors in need of assistance.

Home Weatherization & Energy Audits

A great way to reduce electricity costs is to make sure your home is as energy-efficient as possible. To help with this, HEC has partnered with CHP Energy Solutions to provide free weatherization for low-income households. We also provide free energy audits for our residential customers.

What is Weatherization?

Some ways to weatherize your home include:

- Add weather-stripping around exterior doors and windows that have a draft.
- Use outlet plugs to close the holes on exterior walls when not in use.
- Apply caulk around light fixtures and other gaps.



Why a Home Energy Audit?

An energy audit helps identify possible areas of energy loss, from which our team provides recommendations on how you can conserve energy, reduce areas of energy loss, and increase comfort in your home.

[Explore Programs](#)

Adjusting Your Temperatures



Thermostats

Ideal Settings for When Your Heat Is On:

- When you're home: 65-68°F
- When you're away for 2+ days: 60-65°F
- 60°F minimum if four-legged family members are home

Hot Water Heaters

- Lower the thermostat on your water heater to 120°F.
- Add an insulated blanket to your water heater (found at your local building supply store). The thicker insulation you use, the more energy you will conserve.

[More Energy Conservation Tips](#)

Help Your Community Energy Share

With the additional heating and lighting needs the season brings, it's no secret that consumer energy bills are often higher in the colder months. To help those in need with their electric bills, consider taking part in our Energy Share program.



Energy Share allows HEC customers to contribute in two ways: round up their bills or donate a set amount. All donations are tax-deductible. For tax purposes, a summary of total contributions for the year will be reflected on your statement each month.

[Learn More About Energy Share](#)

In case you missed it...

The Explore More Discovery Museum in downtown Harrisonburg recently opened a new interactive energy exhibit in partnership with Harrisonburg Electric Commission (HEC)!

You can read all about it on our [website](#), or visit the museum to check out the full exhibit and learn more about different types of energy.



Mark Your Calendar

November 10th - Closed for Veterans Day (observed)

November 23rd-24th - Closed for Thanksgiving

December 2nd - Holiday Parade @ Downtown Harrisonburg

December 25th-26th - Closed for Christmas

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