



Dean Ortmann,
President/CEO

AVOID SINGING THE BLUES WITH THESE ENERGY-SAVING, BUDGET-FRIENDLY TIPS

Dean Ortmann, president/CEO, a.k.a. Elvis, doesn't want you to get All Shook Up over your energy bill. Keep reading...your cooperative has some money-saving tips for you.

If you're having trouble paying your energy bills, you are not alone. The U.S. Energy Information Administration reports one in three households face challenges meeting their energy needs. You can lower your energy costs by making energy-efficiency upgrades to your home that will save you money in energy costs over time. However, many of these upgrades require a substantial initial investment, like replacing an entire HVAC system or installing new windows, and not everyone has a budget for upgrades like that.

Fortunately, you don't need a lot of money to make energy-saving changes. Following are some low-cost, simple adjustments you can make in your home, whether you rent or own. These energy-efficiency tips target one of the biggest energy users in the home: the heating system. Heating and cooling account for nearly half of a U.S. home's energy consumption.

Add Coziness to Your Home One way you can feel warmer in your home without turning up the thermostat is by making your home cozy.

The way our bodies perceive the temperature of a room is based more on the surfaces in the room than the air temperature. In general, harder surfaces feel colder. For example, your tile floor will feel cooler than your fabric sofa.

Cold floors in a room make us feel colder. Adding an area

rug to a hard-surface floor can make us feel warmer, even with the same setting on the thermostat.

The same goes for windows. Windows are typically the least-insulated surface in a room and can feel cold in winter months. Adding or closing curtains can help the room feel warmer.

Check Your Windows Make sure your windows are closed and locked. Locking windows pulls the sashes tighter together, reducing gaps that allow air to flow through and cause drafts. If your sash locks don't form a tight fit, adjust them or add weatherstripping.

There's a variety of window weatherstripping products available for less than \$20. Most are simple to install and only require tools you most likely already have around the house, such as scissors and a tape measure.

Some are more permanent solutions, and some are intended to be used for one heating season and then removed. Temporary solutions such as caulk strips, putty, pull-and-peel caulking, or window insulation films can be used if you rent your home and can't make permanent changes.



Seal Your Doors Weatherstripping doors is an easy do-it-yourself project. Make sure your doors seal tightly and don't allow drafts to pass through around the edges or under the door.

Make sure any doors leading to an unheated space—outside or into a garage—are sealed tightly. If you can see light around the edges or underneath the door, or feel air movement when the door is closed, you know you are losing energy.

Because doors need to open and close easily, expect to do a bit of adjusting after installing weatherstripping. If weatherstripping isn't installed correctly, it can make the door hard to close. Making it too loose defeats the purpose. You need to get it just right.



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CVEC 2022 REBATE PROGRAM LAUNCHED

CVEC members receive multiple benefits with energy efficient purchases

Members wanting to save energy and money in the new year should review Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's (CVEC) new 2022 rebate forms. CVEC annually publishes a list of energy efficient items that are eligible for a rebate when a member makes a qualifying purchase and submits the required paperwork. Rebate forms are available online at cvecoop.com or by calling the office.

Eligibility criteria for each category is listed on the forms. Rebates begin at \$0.50 up to \$800 for certain items. To receive a rebate, the member must purchase a qualifying item, fill out the rebate form, and return the form and documentation to the cooperative within three months of purchase or installation (this will be clarified on the form). Equipment must be installed within the cooperative's service territory and, in most cases, must be ENERGY STAR® rated.

"In collaboration with Dairyland Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier, CVEC offers rebates to members to help them use energy wisely. In modern households, nearly every outlet is being used. Between more efficient equipment and the rebates, it makes economical and environmental sense to go electric," said Dean Ortmann, president/CEO.

Changes for the 2022 rebate program include:

- Smart power strips and flow restrictors for faucets and shower heads were removed
- Air-source heat pump rebates increased from \$250/ton to \$300/ton

If a member purchased one of the items above in 2021 and submits their rebate form and the required documentation within three months, they will receive the 2021 rebate.

Rebate forms can be found at the co-op office and online at cvecoop.com. Please email cvec@cvecoop.com or call the cooperative office, 715.239.6800, with any questions.

2022 CVEC INCENTIVES

Ag/Commercial/Industrial

Commercial vending machine controls	\$25
Circulation fan	\$1/inch
<36" diameter must be ≥18 lbs force/kW	
36"+ diameter must be ≥21 lbs force/kW	
Exhaust fan	\$1/inch
<36" diameter must be ≥18 cfm/watt @ 0.05" SP	
36"+ diameter must be ≥21 cfm/watt @ 0.05" SP	
Electric forklift battery charger (controlled)	\$200/each
Dairy plate cooler/well water pre-cooler	\$500/each
Dairy refrigeration heat recovery	\$300/each
electric back-up w/ controlled water heater	
Low/zero energy livestock waterer (≤500 watts, insulated tank)	\$50/each
Scroll refrigerant compressor (\$1,000 max.)	\$30/HP
Variable frequency drive (VFD) (\$1,000 max.)	\$30/HP
Custom rebates are available for agricultural and commercial accounts	

Appliances

Clothes dryer (electric)*	\$25/each
Clothes dryer (heat pump)	\$50/each
Clothes washer*	\$25/each
Dehumidifier*	\$25/each
Dishwasher*	\$25/each
Freezer (≥10 cubic ft.)*	\$25/each
Inductive Range	\$25/each
Refrigerator (≥10 cubic ft.)*	\$25/each
Recycling a working freezer, refrigerator or room air conditioner	\$25/unit

*Must be an ENERGY STAR appliance

Assessments / Audits

Audit recommended improvements	(\$500 max.) varies
Compressed air audit	(\$500 max.) varies
Touchstone Energy® New Home Program (meet 1 of 5 requirements)	\$500/each

Miscellaneous

Electric vehicle (EV) charging station (controlled/capped at cost)	\$400/each
EV smart charger w/ integrated metering (controlled/capped at cost)	\$800/each

Heating & Cooling (HVAC)

New furnace with ECM blower motor	\$35/each
Variable speed motor (not multi-speed)** OR Eae ≤ 670 kWh/year**	
**Information shown on AHRI certificate	
Heat Pumps	
Air source & mini-split	\$300/ton
SEER 14+, HSPF 8.2+, or EER 11+	
Commercial air source & PTHPs	\$300/ton
<20 tons: EER 11+	
20 to <60 tons: EER 10.5+	
≥60 tons: EER 10+	
Geothermal	\$800/ton

Lighting

LED lamp (residential; 5 lamp min.)	\$0.50/lamp
LED lamp (non-residential; 5 lamp min.)	\$0.50/lamp
LED fixture (non-residential)	\$0.50 per 800 lumens
LED exit sign	\$5/sign
Occupancy sensor (does not incl. motion detector fixtures)	\$5/each

Water Heating

Heat pump water heater	\$300/each
Integrated (all-in-one) units; Uniform Energy Factor (UEF) 2.00+	
Solar storage water heater w/ electric auxiliary tank (75-99 gal.)	\$150/each
Solar storage water heater w/ electric auxiliary tank (100+ gal.)	\$300/each
Residential high-efficiency water heater	
50-74 gallons, UEF 0.88+	\$63/each
75-99 gallons, UEF 0.88+	\$150/each
100+ gallons, UEF 0.88+	\$300/each
Commercial high-efficiency water heater	
75-99 gallons	\$150/each
100+ gallons	\$300/each



RECEIVE **\$20** WHEN YOU PAY AUTOMATICALLY, ON TIME AND SECURELY

Sign up for the Automatic Payment Plan and receive a \$20 one-time credit on your electric bill. The Automatic Payment Plan option allows a secure transfer of funds from your checking or savings account directly to Chippewa Valley Electric Co-op to pay your electric bill. A direct withdrawal will process from your bank account on the due date each month for your bill. No more stamps or writing checks!

If you are interested in participating in this convenient and secure payment method, please fill out the form below and return it to the cooperative office. The credit is for first-time participants only. The sign-up deadline is March 31, 2022.



I want to participate in the Automatic Payment Plan

Name(s) on CVEC Bill _____

CVEC Account Number _____

Billing Address _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Your Financial Institution _____

Account Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If your payment is to be delivered from a checking account, enclose a blank check. Write VOID across it and DO NOT SIGN IT. If your payment is to be deducted from a savings account, enclose a deposit slip that includes your account number. Please allow one month for the set up of the Automatic Payment Plan.

CVEC has the right to cancel use of the Automatic Payment Plan. I will write to CVEC if I decide to cancel my use of the Automatic Payment Plan.

Account Holder(s) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

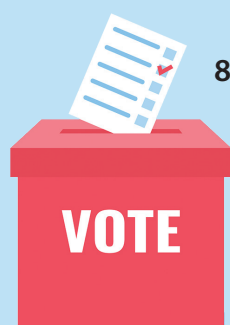
Note: Only first-time participants are eligible for the \$20 credit. Member must remain on the Automatic Payment Plan for a minimum of 18 months. Sign-up deadline is March 31, 2022. Mail this page with your current payment or mail it separately to CVEC, P.O. Box 575, Cornell, WI 54732. For more information, call 715.239.6800 or 800.300.6800.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Last call!

The deadline to submit paperwork for director candidates from Districts 2, 3, 4, and 7 is February 9, 2022.



SAVE THE DATE

85th Annual Meeting of CVEC Members

**Saturday,
March 26**



Cooperative Principle #2 in action:
Democratic Member Control



Attention High School Seniors:

Don't forget to submit your completed scholarship application to the CVEC office no later than April 1.



Please go to the cooperative website (cvcoop.com) to find the application forms or call our office for assistance.
You don't want to miss out on this opportunity!

ENERGY-SAVING TIPS

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Close the Damper If you have a fireplace, make sure the damper is completely closed when not using it. Leaving the damper open is like leaving a window open—it's just harder to see. The air you just paid to heat your home will go right out the chimney.

The only exception is some gas fireplaces need to remain open for gas fumes to exit the home. If you have a gas fireplace, check the owner's manual for more information on the damper position.



Layer Up Dressing for the season prevents going overboard on your energy use. It can be tempting to adjust the thermostat to increase your comfort. Putting on a sweater or comfy sweatshirt can have the same comfort impact without increasing your energy use. Slippers can be a big help, too, especially when your feet touch a cold floor.

The next time you consider turning up the thermostat a few degrees, try some of these tips first to stay warm and leave increased energy bills out in the cold.

Perhaps you'll save enough to buy yourself some Blue Suede Shoes!



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

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www.cvcoop.com • email: cvec@cve.coop

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Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30–4 p.m.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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Nicole Whipp Sime, Editor

