



ENERGY SAVING

These energy saving tips can help you to become more energy efficient and save money on your monthly bill.



In this fact sheet you can find out tips and advice for easy ways to save energy, lower your heating bill and reduce your carbon footprint. We are all responsible for the energy that we use in our homes.



LIVING WITH OTHERS

If you share your home with other tenants, talk to them about saving energy and why it is important for everyone to do it.



HEATING

WHAT OUR TENANTS CAN DO

Timing your heating:

You can time your heating, so that it is warm in the evening or when you wake up. There is no point wasting energy when you are not home. You may not need your heating on when you are curled up under a duvet while you are sleeping, or when you know you are going to be out of the house.

Choose which rooms to heat:

There is no point in heating rooms that you are not spending time in. Some radiators have a Thermostatic Radiator Valve on them so you can control the heat in each room. You can turn down the heat and energy, and which is saving money.

Turn down your thermostat:

Some homes have a thermostat on the wall that controls the heating. The thermostat can be turned down in the warmer weather to make the temperature just right. If it gets cold, then it can be turned back up.

Bleed your radiators:

Air can get trapped in a central heating system and then it prevents heat from circulating around it – this will mean that radiators will feel cold even when the heating is on. By bleeding your radiators, you are releasing the trapped air and allow the heat to flow more freely again, and the radiators heat up and you get the maximum heat from them.

Stop draughts:

Keep the internal doors closed to keep the heat in.

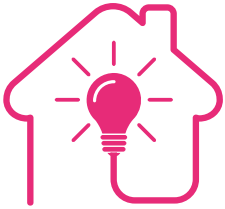
Close your curtains or blinds:

Use the natural light during the day and heat from the sunlight. At night, close your curtains to help keep the heat in – but try not to drape them over radiators.



WHAT ENCIRCLE HOUSING DOES

- ✓ Service the boiler annually to ensure it runs efficiently.
- ✓ Ensure that valves are fitted to radiators where possible so you can control the heat in the rooms.
- ✓ Ensures the size of the radiator is correct for the room size.
- ✓ Ensures that the loft has adequate insulation to retain the heat within the home.
- ✓ Ensures that windows are maintained to keep the heat from escaping out of your property.
- ✓ Ensures the boiler is set at a temperature that provides adequate heat to the property.
- ✓ Ensures that any cylinders are insulated to keep the hot water hot for a longer period before re-heating is required.
- ✓ Provides advice on how to stay warm.
- ✓ Has a helpdesk that can offer advice on maintenance issues related to heating and hot water. For any emergencies we aim to respond within 4 hours.



ELECTRICITY

WHAT OUR TENANTS CAN DO

Lights:

Turn lights off in rooms that are not being used.

Do not use standby mode:

Unless you switch off appliances at the wall, such as a TV they will continue to use energy. You can use Hive Plugs, and switch off at the wall with a quick tap of the app. Find out more at www.hivehome.com

Unplug all your chargers:

As soon as your device, such as a mobile phone, MP3 players and laptop are fully charged, unplug it. Not only will this save energy, but it also prolongs the battery life.

Use LED light bulbs:

LED light bulbs are one of the simplest ways to reduce electricity consumption and save money.

Smart plugs:

When a device is plugged into a smart plug socket, it can automatically turn off the power to it when it is turned off, such as a lamp.



WHAT ENCIRCLE HOUSING DOES

- ✓ Ensures that the fixed wiring is safe to use and maintained.
- ✓ Provides advice on energy saving tips.
- ✓ Tests emergency lighting and ensure it is operational.
- ✓ Replaces sealed units in the lights.
- ✓ Annual health and safety check of electrical sockets.



APPLIANCES

WHAT OUR TENANTS CAN DO

Kettle:

Overfilling the kettle is one of the most common ways people waste electricity every day. You should only fill the kettle with the amount of water you need for your drink or whatever else you are using it for.

Washing clothes:

Half-load settings save very little energy. It is better to do fewer but fuller wash loads.

Use the washing machine at a lower temperature:

Using the washing machine on a cooler setting helps save energy because heating the water to higher temperatures consumes large amounts of electricity.

Freezer:

Defrosting the freezer is also a good idea. Ice buildup inside the freezer causes it to work harder to maintain the temperature, using more energy in the process.

Oven:

Another way to lower your energy consumption is clearing out the oven. This ensures that heat can circulate properly, and that the oven does not have to work harder than necessary to cook food.



WHAT ENCIRCLE HOUSING DOES

- ✓ Tests appliances provided by Encircle Housing.
- ✓ Provides communal washing machines and tumble dryers where communal facilities exist.
- ✓ Services and maintains appliances where covered by a service charge.



BATHING

WHAT OUR TENANTS CAN DO

Take shorter showers:

While taking short showers is much more energy-efficient than running a bath, they still consume a fair amount of energy during use. Cutting a 10-minute shower down to eight minutes can save up money in energy and water costs. For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/3YpcaFs>

Turn off the tap:

A running tap can use more than 10 litres of water a minute, so turn off the tap while brushing your teeth, shaving, or washing your face. Use cold water if you do not need hot.

Change your shower head:

If you have got a shower, use a water efficient shower head and you can save on your bills.

WHAT ENCIRCLE HOUSING DOES

- ✓ Undertakes legionella risk assessment.
- ✓ Ensures water supply is potable.
- ✓ Maintains specialist bath equipment where provided by Encircle Housing.
- ✓ Ensures where required valves to reduce the risk of scalding are provided.



ENERGY USE

WHAT OUR TENANTS CAN DO

Smart meters:

Some of our homes have a smart meter so you can see exactly how much energy you are using in your home and when. This will help you make changes and habits, like turning off lights when you leave a room or switching items off at the plug instead of leaving them on standby. You can also see how your energy use changes over time, so you know whether the alterations to daily habits are making a difference.



WHAT ENCIRCLE HOUSING DOES

- ✓ Look for the best tariff's available at renewal stages to try to obtain the best value for money for our tenants.
- ✓ Apply for government help, rates relief when applicable and available.
- ✓ Advise and educate our residents on energy efficiency in your home.
- ✓ We are here to give our tenants advice, guidance and support.
- ✓ By working closely with all our tenants, we can also help them to set up payment plans for their bills.



CONTACT US

If you have any questions or would like some help and advice, please get in touch:

Call: 0330 390 0517

Email: contactus@encircleha.co.uk

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Email: repairs@encircleha.co.uk

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