



# Go Green, Save Green

## Efficiency Checklist to Save Money!

Worship facilities across the country are turning to energy efficiency to decrease their costs and free up funds for ministry and mission.

Explore the resources below for easy and fast solutions to simultaneously save energy, money, and prevent pollution.



### Quick steps to save money today!

- Post reminders to turn off lights and conserve water.
- Plug air leaks with weather stripping and caulking and inspect insulation.
- Install Programmable Thermostats.
- Plug electronics into "smart" power strips and utilize "sleep-mode" functions on electronics.
- Upgrade to LED lighting and install motion sensors or timers on lighting systems.
- Conduct an energy audit with with the [ENERGY STAR® Energy Efficiency Toolkit for Worship Facilities](#)
- Replace your HVAC filters regularly and consider installing a new heat pump system.
- Replace appliances with EnergyStar® efficient ones.
- Install low-flow toilets and faucets.
- Adjust hot water heater temperature and consider installing on-demand water heaters.
- Consider renewable energy options through solar, wind or geothermal.

**Learn about Funding Opportunities here!**  
[onehomeonefuture.org/learn-about-funding-opportunities](https://onehomeonefuture.org/learn-about-funding-opportunities)

**More resources here!**  
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### Lighting

- Upgrade lighting systems for energy efficiency with ENERGY STAR certified LEDs
- Install occupancy sensors to automatically turn off lights when no one is present.
- Sunlight is free! Open or close blinds to make the best use of natural daylight and take advantage of skylights or other natural daylight sources.
- During daylight, investigate which lights (exterior and interior) stay on and shut them off.

### Building/House of Worship

- Conduct your own energy audit with with the [ENERGY STAR® Energy Efficiency Toolkit for Worship Facilities](#)
- Conduct a nighttime audit to find out what's on afterhours that shouldn't be.
- Ask your utility if they offer free or inexpensive energy audits
- Read and take action from the Energy Star Action Workbook for Congregations
- Meet certification criteria outlined in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
- Find ways to Reduce Energy Consumption
- Replace windows
- Regularly check and maintain equipment to ensure that it's functioning efficiently.
- Visually inspect insulation on all piping, ducting and equipment for damage.

### Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

- Replace outdated HVAC- Consider heat pump system
- Install Programmable Thermostats
- Use temperature setbacks in building for energy conservation
- Plug air leaks with weather stripping and caulking.
- Repair damaged insulation and replace missing insulation with thicknesses calculated for the operating and ambient conditions of the mechanical system.
- Use shades and blinds to control direct sun through windows in both summer and winter to prevent or encourage heat gain.



More resources here!

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### Renewable Energy

- Install solar panels, wind turbines or geothermal
- Derive a percentage of total electricity consumed from renewable sources
- Achieve Carbon Neutrality

### Water

- Find and fix any leaks— especially hot water leaks.
- Consider installing tankless/on-demand water heaters.
- See the EPA's WaterSense® program for water saving labeled products and rebates, for water efficiency tips, and best practices.
- Install Rain Barrels for watering plants.

### Equipment and Plug-in's

- Activate sleep settings on all computers, printers, copiers, scanners, and other devices so that they automatically enter a sleep mode when inactive.
- Plug electronics into a "smart" power strip that lets you designate which electronics should always be on, and which do not need power when not in use.
- Purchase ENERGY STAR certified commercial food service equipment.
- Certified refrigerators and freezers can save over 45 percent of the energy used by conventional models.

### Congregational Commitment

- Start a conversation about energy efficiency at your place of worship.
- Create a congregation energy policy to guide responsible energy use
- Set goals and a methodology to track and reward improvements
- Create a mechanism for congregants to share their suggestions with you.
- Hang banners, posters, and signs with energy-saving messages in high-traffic areas.
- Consider making monthly announcements to share the latest energy consumption data and steps your worship facility is taking to improve energy efficiency.



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