

## **Save Energy, Save Money.**

With winter energy bills starting to climb as the temperatures start to dip, now is a good time to think about ways to use energy more efficiently. The more energy you save the lower your bills will be, meaning a greater bottom line for your business. Combining conservation with a few smart choices that are no or low cost is recommended for maximum savings.

Here are some tips from Chamber members BGE and CQI Associates that can help you save energy in your business (and even in your home).

## **Ways to Save Energy in your Business (and/or home) From BGE/Constellation Energy**

### **Little or No Cost Ways to Save**

*Start saving right away!*

1. Lower water heater thermostat to 120 degrees
2. Turn off lights when room is not occupied
3. Thermostat settings: winter 68 degrees; summer 78 degrees
4. Lower thermostat setting in winter (if you have a heat pump do not do this manually; use a programmable thermostat)
5. Use energy-saving settings on washer, dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator; run dishwasher when full and use air dry feature
6. Wash only full loads of clothes in cold water
7. Clean refrigerator condenser coils frequently
8. Repair leaky faucets and toilets
9. Close drapes or blinds during summer days; open during winter to let in sun

### **Easy and Inexpensive**

*Likely pay back is less than one year*

1. Install energy-efficient showerheads
2. Install faucet aerators in kitchen and baths
3. Install programmable thermostat
4. Plug air leaks in attic, basement and around doors and windows
5. Clean or change air filters on heating and cooling system monthly
6. Install foam draft protectors to insulate around electrical outlets-turn off electricity when installing
7. Use compact fluorescent lights in high or moderate use fixtures in place of standard incandescent bulbs

For more information and additional tips visit [www.bgesmartenergy.com](http://www.bgesmartenergy.com)

## **Top 10 Ways to Save Energy in your Business (and/or home) CQI Associates – Maryland Energy Purchasing Cooperative**

1. Track your utility bills monthly
2. Do not heat when you cool or cool when you heat
3. Convert lighting to T-8s, CFLs and LEDs
4. Set thermostats to correct temperatures and times, use programmable thermostats
5. Set unoccupied thermostat temperatures not more than four degrees from the occupied temperatures
6. Turn off computers, printers, fax machines, copiers nightly (Sleep mode does not count)
7. Buy Energy Star rated computers, electronics, and appliances
8. Replace heating and air conditioning after 15 years, new equipment is 30% more efficient
9. Purchase Smart - Join the Energy Cooperative
10. Turn it off!

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