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Top Weatherization Tips: The Low-Hanging Fruit

The following home weatherization projects lend themselves well to a do-it-yourself approach and will help you start reducing your utility bills.

Air Seal

Air seal the following areas as if you are creating an air-tight cocoon:

- Under sinks
- Electrical outlets
- Around casings and between the wall and floor
- Recessed lighting fixtures
- Attic - all electrical and plumbing penetrations
- Any chases or voids in the framing in the attic
- Attic access hatches
- Windows by repairing latches, glazing and faulty weather stripping
- Around doors with proper weather stripping
- Between garages and the home
- From crawl space to the heated space
- Between finished attic floors and knee wall attic space

Insulate

Insulate the following areas of your air-sealed cocoon:

- Attic to R-38 after air sealing
- Accessible hot water pipes
- Basement sill plates if accessible
- Rim joists
- Shared walls between crawl spaces or garages and heated spaces in the home

Ducts

- Heating ducts that are located outside the heated space typically loose between 10% and 30% of the heat produced by your furnace. Seal and insulate.

Furnace

- Change the filter. Dirty filters reduce furnace efficiency and wear out your fan motor and other furnace components.

Crawl Space

- Carefully install a high quality vapor barrier over the soil in the crawl space by lapping and taping seams and bonding vapor barrier to the foundation walls
- Eliminate water intrusion into the crawl or basement (usually a matter of down spouts or French drains)

Lighting and Appliances

- Go all CFL bulbs if you can
- Front-loading washing machines save water and reduce drying time
- Energy star dish washer uses less hot water
- Energy star or newer refrigerator (older models use up to three times the energy)
- Eliminate the old refrigerator in the garage

Let Us Help

HomeRx specialists are happy to work with you to make any level of improvements you need. More complex home weatherization work—like replacing windows, insulating walls, and installing heating/water heating systems and heat recovery ventilators—is more effectively done with the help of a contractor with weatherization expertise. HomeRx is a general contractor that provides professional weatherization services in the greater Puget Sound area.

**Start saving! Schedule your weatherization
with HomeRx today. Call (206) 498-2764.**