

# Your home, on its best behavior: a checklist.



**SUGAR  
HOLLOW  
SOLAR**

Solar swaps clean energy for fossil fuels. But you can also shrink your carbon footprint (and your electric bill!) with a few simple shifts that reduce your energy needs in the first place.

## Adjust your Temperatures

- Turn the heat down to 60-62° at night if your house has a furnace or boiler fueled by natural gas, propane, or oil (especially an older heating appliance)
- Turn the heat down when away from home
- Avoid turning the heat up higher than 70° in the winter
- Adjust fridge and freezer temperatures so they aren't colder than need be
- Use only cold water for clothes washing

## Minimize the Use of Air Conditioners

- Minimize use of air conditioners as much as possible. Try to avoid setting lower than 78° when home or lower than 83° during the day

## Open Windows and Use Ceiling Fans

- Open windows and use ceiling fans and box fans to cool the house at night
- Use ceiling fans in summer to help keep home comfortable

## Lighting and Electronics

- Turn off lights when not in use
- Replace old incandescent light bulbs with LED lights
- Install low-flow faucet aerators and showerheads

## Other Home Maintenance

- Regularly change your furnace filters
- Insulate your water heater and the first 6 feet of piping coming from the water heater
- Turn the temp on your water heater down to 120°
- Line dry your laundry to avoid that energy hog dryer