Winterizing Your Home
Keeping Temperatures Up While Keeping Expenses Down
ENERGY SAVING TIPS
CHECK FOR DRAFTS

- Door and window frames
- Electrical and gas service entrances
- Dryer vents
- Bricks, siding, stucco, and foundation
- Cable TV and phone lines
- Outdoor water faucets
- Mail chutes
- Air conditioners
- Vents and fans

Reducing drafts in the home can cut down on energy use 5 to 30%
Draft snake/draft dodger: Blocks air that might leak in under doors.

For sale on www.amazon.com or use a rolled up towel or blanket to make your own!
Weatherstripping: sealing air leaks around doors or windows using materials like felt, foam, rubber, or tape

Plastic window insulation (at right): clear shrink film attached using adhesive and/or a hair dryer to keep out drafts

Found at: Target, The Home Depot, Lowe’s, Wal-Mart
MORE ENERGY SAVING TIPS

• Run ceiling fans in reverse (clockwise)
• Set water heater to 120F or lower
• Install storm doors and windows
• Turn down thermostat when away and at night
• Insulated curtains (at right)
SAFETY TIPS
WARNINGS

• Electric blankets: turn off when not in use
• Thermostat settings: not below 55F (13C)
• Icicles hanging from buildings are dangerous
• Beware of snow sliding off rooftops
• Do NOT use your stove or oven to heat your home
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www.temperatureWorld.com
WOOD STOVES & FIREPLACES

- Check with owner before using
- Inspect and clean chimney
- Clear area around hearth
- Metal mesh screen
- Leave glass doors and flue open while burning a fire
- Stovepipe thermometers
- Fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stoves
WINTERIZE YOUR CAR

- Antifreeze
- Windshield wiper fluid (winter mix)
- Ice scraper and brush
- Tire pressure/snow tires
- General tune-up (heater, brakes, exhaust, etc)
ENTRANCES

- Clear snow and ice from steps and entrances
- Throw salt to melt ice
- DO NOT use hot water to melt ice
SNOW REMOVAL

• Avoid back pain: lift with your legs
  – Ergonomic snow shovels
  – Push, don’t lift
  – Pick up small amounts at a time
• Use caution with snow blowers
SPACE HEATERS

- Look for the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label
- Thermostatically controlled heaters waste less energy
- Use correct size for the room
- Place on level surface away from foot traffic
- Keep children and pets away
EMERGENCY KIT

• Indoor candles and matches/lighter
• Back-up batteries
• Bottled water and non-perishable food (including pet food, if you have a pet)
• Blankets and a first-aid kit
• Evacuation plan
• Emergency kit for car
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

• United Illuminating
  1-800-7-CALL-UI (1-800-722-5584)

• Southern Connecticut Gas (emergency)
  1-800-513-8898
## Online resources

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<td>United Illuminating</td>
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INDOOR CLOTHING

• Layers
• Socks/slippers
• Winter sheets and pajamas (flannel, fleece)
• Layers of warm blankets (down, wool, fleece, etc.) or electric blanket
The Snuggie

Slippers
Hot water bottle

Microwavable heat packs
HUMIDIFIERS

• Humidifiers help combat dry winter air
• Natural humidifiers
  – Bowl of water on the radiator
  – Leave bathroom door open during showers
  – Hang wet laundry indoors
  – House plants
COLD CARE

• Lip balm
• Body lotion/moisturizer
• Tissues with lotion and/or Vicks
• Neti pot: cleanses, moisturizes and protects nasal passages