



ENERGY EFFICIENCY
PROGRAMS



Energy
Efficiency
Program



Ameren Illinois and Nicor Gas are bringing savings to you

Thank you for taking steps to save! By installing the energy-saving products in this kit, you can help increase your home's comfort and lower your future monthly energy bills.

How to get started:

- Read the "Tips" to learn how these products **save energy** and how to **safely use them**
- Read installation **instructions** included for certain products
- **Install** the products as directed and **start saving money** on your future utility bills

If you live in Bloomington or Normal, you may be eligible for additional free energy-saving products and services through this offering.

Call 309-249-8204 to learn more.

Find more resources to help manage your energy bills at amerenillinois.com/recovery and nicorgas.com/energyassistance.

Tips to maximize your energy savings

Your new kit contains products designed to save you electricity, natural gas, and water. Learn more about why each item is included in the kit and tips on how to install them to save more money and energy.

Electricity-saving products

	<p>Advanced power strips</p> <p>Advanced power strips prevent energy from being wasted by electronics that are turned off, but still draw energy when plugged into an outlet. Advanced power strips prevent losing “standby” energy while allowing other devices to remain on.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips:</p> <p>Be sure to plug electronics that always need to be on into the “Always on” outlets on your advanced power strip. This would be things like your router or DVR.</p>
	<p>LED bulbs</p> <p>LEDs use up to 75%-80% less energy, create less heat and last 15 to 25 times longer than a standard incandescent bulb.*</p> <p>The 9W LED bulb is the perfect replacement for most of your old bulbs in lamps around your home.</p> <p>The 8W LED reflector bulb style is an energy-saving replacement for most track and recessed lighting.</p> <p>The 5W LED globe bulb replaces your old 40W incandescent bulb.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips:</p> <p>Always make sure the power is turned off and wear a thick glove to protect your hand. Old, incandescent bulbs can get incredibly hot very quickly.</p> <p>Do not force a bulb that will not unscrew. Additional force could break the bulb and result in injury. Tip to remove a stuck bulb: Cut a two-foot long piece of duct tape and make a loop with the bulb in the middle. Press the tape against the bulb forming handles with the tape. Twist counterclockwise, and the bulb should come loose!</p>

Tools needed:

- A rag or thick glove to protect your hand

Best ways to save:

- Replace the bulbs in the lights you use frequently to save the most energy.
- Don't forget to turn off lights when you are not in the room.
- Electronics use standby energy or phantom energy when they are plugged in. This means they are constantly drawing a low level of energy – even when they are not in use. Your advanced power strip works best when used with your TV or computer set up. Using your advanced power strip, you can stop standby energy for things like your Blu-ray or DVD players, video game console, or printer.

*energy.gov

Call 309-249-8204 if you have any questions about the products you have received today.

Weatherization products

	<p>Weatherstripping and rope caulk</p> <p>Your kit includes two different types of weatherstripping: adhesive foam and v-seal plastic. Both seal the space around windows and doors to minimize outdoor air from coming in and conditioned air going out.</p> <p>Installation tips: Adhesive foam weatherstrippings should be used to fill small and irregular gaps in window and door frames. Start with a clean surface then measure the edges where the tape will be applied and cut the tape to fit. Facing the adhesive side towards the outside of the house, apply the tape to the edges of your doors and windows. V-seal weatherstrippings work by compressing when windows and doors are closed and preventing outdoor air from coming in. Start with a clean surface then measure the edges where the tape will be applied and cut the tape to fit. With v-seal strips, fold the strip down the middle to form a V shape before applying. Once ready, apply the folded strip to the edges of your door and window frames with the adhesive side facing towards the outside of your home.</p> <p>Installation tips: Before installing, clean the surface where the weatherstripping or rope caulk will be placed. When ready, unravel and cut the amount of weatherstripping or rope caulk needed, then simply place and press to seal any gaps in window or door frames.</p>
	<p>Door sweep</p> <p>Door sweeps are used to block outdoor air from entering through gaps, specifically at the bottom of your exterior doors.</p> <p>Installation tips: Begin by measuring your door and cut the sweep to size. Install the door sweep on the side that your door opens. For example, if your door swings inward, install the sweep on the inside of your door. Simply peel and stick the sweep to your door. The door sweep should not drag across the floor, it only needs to align to your door's threshold to create an adequate seal. Be sure to use on exterior doors; this is where the outside air gets in your home and conditioned air escapes.</p>
	<p>Outlet and switch gaskets</p> <p>Outlet and switch gaskets help insulate the space behind your outlet or switch plate. They help prevent outside air from getting in through your wall.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips: Before adding the insulation gasket, be sure to turn off the power at the breaker box to the outlet or light switch. Remove the outlet or light switch plate with a screwdriver, place the foam gasket right over the outlet or switch. Be sure to use on exterior walls; this is where the outside air gets in your home and conditioned air escapes.</p>
	<p>Hot water pipe insulation</p> <p>Pipe insulation will help prevent heat loss from your hot water pipes.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips: Using the two sizes provided in your kit, select the insulation that best fits the outside diameter of your pipes. Once you have selected your insulation, measure your pipe starting from the water heater to the last accessible point and cut the insulation to fit. Place the insulation around the pipe with the seam facing down. Once in place, secure the insulation with duct tape.</p>

Tools needed:

- A screw driver and duct tape

Best ways to save:

- Sealing up spaces where air can escape your home can not only save you money, but it may improve indoor air quality by preventing outdoor allergens from getting inside.

Water-saving products

	<p>Shower start valve</p> <p>A shower start valve is specially designed to detect when your shower's water reaches the right temperature and automatically shuts off the water until you restart the water flow. You can save energy and water while still enjoying a perfectly warm shower that's ready when you are.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips: A shower start valve should be installed between the shower arm and the new efficient showerhead.</p>
	<p>Showerhead</p> <p>High-efficiency showerheads use on average less than half the water of a standard showerhead while maintaining a powerful flow. This saves both water and the energy used to heat water.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips: Make sure the water is turned off at the water line before removing your existing showerhead. If you cannot remove your showerhead by hand, use a wrench. Prevent scratches to your fixtures by covering them with a rag or rubber grip before applying the wrench. Attach the new showerhead and tighten by turning clockwise until tight.</p>
	<p>Bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators</p> <p>Faucet aerators are compatible with most faucets and save the amount of water you use without limiting the pressure. Faucet aerators can reduce the amount of water you use, which saves on your energy bill too.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips: If you cannot remove your current faucet by hand, use a wrench. Prevent scratches to your fixtures by covering them with a rag or rubber grip before applying the wrench. Attach the new aerators and tighten by turning clockwise until tight.</p>
	<p>Shower timer</p> <p>A shower timer helps you track how long you shower. Every time the sand runs out and you have to flip it over, another five minutes has passed. This helpful reminder encourages you to save energy and water by taking shorter showers.</p>
	<p>Plumber's tape</p> <p>Plumber's tape is used around the threads on your pipes to make a watertight connection with your new shower start valve, showerhead and aerators.</p> <p>Installation and safety tips: Prior to installing each of the items above, wipe around the threads of your pipes and faucets to remove any debris. Placing 1-2 layers of plumber's tape on the threads will ensure a good connection and prevent water leaks.</p>

Tools needed:

- A wrench

Best ways to save:

- You save the most energy when you use your new shower start valve, high-efficiency showerhead and shower timer together. This combination maximizes your energy-savings, which lowers your utility bills.
- Taking a five-minute shower can save thousands of gallons of water per year. Any amount of time you cut back in the shower can save you money on your water and energy bills. Use your shower timer to help take shorter showers.