

## Energy Efficiency

### A little SRP History

SRP has a long standing history here in the valley. Salt River Project (SRP) was created as a part of the Federal Reclamation Act of 1902. A group of valley farmers formed an Association and went before the Federal Government and said they'd put up their land as collateral to help build the Roosevelt Dam. One year after the Roosevelt Dam was built, Arizona became a state. Along with the dam, the Association utilized the 500 miles of canals and ditches as a blueprint, left by the Hohokam Indians around 1450 AD, to bring water and vitality to the valley. Even today, SRP's canals move purely by gravity. This history is why SRP is a community owned, public utility. Allowing us the ability to make customer service our number one priority. To learn more about SRP history please visit; [srpnet.com/history](http://srpnet.com/history).

### Efficient Lighting:

Why switch to efficient lighting? In 2012, standard use 40-, 60-, 75- and 100-watt incandescent bulbs started to be phased out. Why, you ask? Thomas Edison had a great idea when he invented the light bulb, but only 5% of that energy creates light, while the other 95% creates wasted heat. Lighting accounts for up to 10% of your home's annual energy usage. Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when shopping for light bulbs to reduce energy use and be more comfortable in the process, as these bulbs generate up to 75% less heat.

### A comparison of life hours for different lighting technologies:

- Incandescent bulbs, approximately 1,000 hours
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), approximately 10,000 hours
- Light-emitting diodes (LEDs), approximately 30,000–50,000 hours

### Shopping for efficient Lighting:

- Look for the "Lighting Facts" label ("Nutrition Facts" for light bulbs)
  - Lumens measure the brightness of the bulb.
  - The color of light is measured in kelvins (K). Lower numbers represent warmer or softer light, and higher numbers indicate cooler or bluer light.

### LEDs:

- These efficient bulbs use a fraction less energy than CFLs, come in different styles and contain no mercury. LED technology is only about 15 years old, but it is developing quickly and prices are dropping.
- Protect your investment. Find the warranty on the package; all LEDs have them. Date your ballast with a permanent marker, scan your receipt into your computer or make a copy of it, and save the warranty information. If the bulb doesn't last the length of the warranty, you will know because the ballast has been dated.
  - If an LED fails, it might not go out completely. Instead, it may get dimmer and/or change color.
  - Be sure to use the correct bulb for can-light fixtures. Flood lights, which are both aesthetically pleasing and functional. They reflect the light and the heat down out of the can. If you use an A-line bulb (standard in appearance), it will heat up the can and cause the LED to fail. LED bulbs are hindered by heat; too much of it will cause them to expire far sooner than anticipated.

#### Proper Disposal of CFLs:

- Please recycle CFLs at participating Home Depot, Lowe's and Ace Hardware locations. All provide safe, free CFL disposal.
    - Each CFL contains trace amounts of mercury, less than the ink content on the tip of a ballpoint pen.
    - To dispose of those long fluorescent tubes (or any other hazardous materials in your home), check **earth911.com**.
- 
- 

#### **Appliances:** Always look for the ENERGY STAR logo on the Energy Guide offered with all appliances.

- Washers/dryers: High-efficiency clothes washers (HECWs) use up to 25 fewer gallons than standard top loaders. Manufacturers are making high-efficiency top-loading washers for customers who prefer that style. HECWs spin at up to 1,500 rpm, bringing clothes out dry to the touch. ENERGY STAR does not label clothes dryers. The most efficient option is a clothesline. However, savings from an HECW will pay for a dryer in that unit's lifetime.
- Refrigerators/freezers: ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerators are 20% more efficient and ENERGY STAR freezers are 10% more efficient than the federal standards.
- Dishwashers: If you have one, use it; you will save more energy and water versus washing by hand, and most have built-in garbage disposals so pre-rinsing is not required.

#### **Air Conditioning and Heating:**

##### Thermostats:

- Programmable thermostats (PTs) allow customers to set temperatures for comfort, even when they are away from home, and help them get the most from their Time-of-Day Price Plan. They truly allow you to set it and forget it. Programmable thermostats can save up to \$180 annually when properly used. Customers can save even more when aligning a PT with one of SRP's Time-of-Day programs.
  - Smart thermostats learn your cooling and heating habits, you can operate them from your smart phone, and they are a portal for other smart devices in your home.
    - SRP offers a rebate and program for smart thermostats, for additional information visit **savewithsrp.com**.
  - Have your heating/cooling unit checked by an SRP Certified Contractor at least once or twice a year. This will help your unit run more efficiently and help you identify problems early.
  - SRP provides rebates for super-efficient ACs. Visit **savewithsrp.com** to learn more.
- 
- 

##### Air Filters:

- Midgrade pleated air filters catch much more dirt and allergens than spun fiberglass filters. Change them once a month, not every three months as the package suggests, since the Arizona environment has more dirt and pollen than other environments. Every day past 30 days that you wait to change your air filter, the less efficient your unit becomes. Using the proper air filter will help keep your air conditioner clean, and changing it once a month will improve efficiency as well.

## **Plumbing:**

### Water Heaters:

- Keep your water heater's temperature at 120°.
  - For visible energy reduction, install a water heater timer. DIY instructions are available on YouTube.
    - For optimum savings, it is recommended that the program timer be left off while you are at work and sleeping and synced with your Time-of-Day program.
  - Before draining your water heater, review the manual for proper maintenance or consult with a professional plumber. A good rule of thumb is to either drain it every six months after purchase or never. Do not wait 10 years and then drain it. This is more likely to cause problems.
- 
- 

## **Home Energy Price Plan Options:**

SRP offers flexible home energy price plan options that are designed to help you save money and match your household budget, lifestyle and energy use needs. Popular Time-of-Day options help you save when you plan ahead to use less energy weekdays during specific hours. For more information, visit [srppriceplans.com](http://srppriceplans.com).

### Time-of Day Price Plan options include:

- SRP EZ-3™: Use less energy from 3 to 6 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. on weekdays when energy is priced higher. Nights, weekends and holidays are all off-peak.
- SRP Time-of-Use™: Shift energy use during seven to eight higher-priced weekday hours, then get lower prices all other hours.

### Other price plan options include:

- Budget Billing, averaging your previous year's usage, thus making your bill more predictable.
    - The best time to sign up is in the fall and winter months so you start at a nice even average.
  - SRP M-Power®: Eliminate monthly bills and prepay for energy in any dollar amount using an M-Power smart card. On average, M-Power customers reduce their energy use by 12% each year.
  - The Economy Price Plan offers customers with limited incomes a monthly discount \$23. off every month.
- 
- 

## **Shade:**

### Shade Screens:



Delivering water and power™

- Shade screens can cut your cooling costs by up to 25% by shading sun-exposed windows, especially east- or west-facing windows.
- SRP has step-by-step DIY videos on [savewithsrp.com](http://savewithsrp.com).
- Contact a licensed contractor to get the rebate for SRP customers, currently .80 cents per square foot.

#### Shade Trees:

- Planting shade trees is a great natural way to add shade to your home. Plant desert-adapted trees and use less water too.
  - Currently, SRP is giving customers up to two free desert-adapted shade trees.
    - Go to [savewithsrp.com](http://savewithsrp.com) to register and attend a shade tree workshop. Upon completing the workshop, SRP customers can receive up to two shade trees — some free shade from SRP.
    - Once the tree is fully grown, you can save up to \$50 a year on cooling costs.
- 
- 

#### Blackout Drapes:

- Blackout drapes are made of a heavier material, blocking sunlight and heat from entering your home, keeping you more comfortable and bills lower. This is an excellent option for residents that cannot plant xeriscape or add shade screens for shade on the outside of the home.

#### Weather Stripping:

- Several kinds of weather stripping, including rubber, foam and vinyl, are available for windows, doors and deviations in your structure.
  - To know if your front door could use some weather stripping, grab a friend and a flashlight. Shine the flashlight on the door with the main lights off. If the person on the other side of the door sees a ring of light around the door, weather stripping is needed.
- 
- 

#### No-Cost ways to save:

- Unplug electronic items when not in use, electronic charging cords, small kitchen appliances, shredder, DVD player, radio, and anything with a light on it that is un-needed.
- Turn off ceiling and floor fans when not in the room, that breeze is cooling you not the air.
  - Don't forget to change the direction of ceiling fans for the time of year – Summer: counter clockwise (rotating straight down, cooling you) and Winter: clockwise (rotating up and circulating heat)
- Close your drapes when the sun is directly on that side of the house
- Turn off the dryer setting of your dish washer
- Try not to fall asleep to the TV, consider putting TV on a timer to turn off
- Match the right size pan or pot to the burner



Delivering water and power™

- Cooking outside using a grill, toaster or Dutch oven helps keep AC costs down in the summertime
- Make sure your dish washer or clothes washer are full before running
  - Hang dry your clothes and do a quick dry to soften in dryer
- Unplug your second refrigerator or freezer for the summer

**For details about SRP rebates and discounts, visit [savewithsrp.com](http://savewithsrp.com).**

- Duct Sealing
- AC Rebates
- Shade Screens
- Shade Trees
- DIY

Other websites with important SRP customer information are [srpnet.com](http://srpnet.com), [srpnet.com/water](http://srpnet.com/water), [SRPmarketplace.com](http://SRPmarketplace.com), [srpnet.com/education](http://srpnet.com/education) and [srpnet.com/safety](http://srpnet.com/safety). To reach SRP by phone, please call **(602) 236-8888**.

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

---