

4 proven ways to save energy with hot water

You've heard a lot of the water- and energy-saving tips before. Scrape your dishes before washing them. Fix water leaks. Only run the dishwasher with a full load of dishes. That's why we're serving up these three other ways to get the job done.

1. Install a timer that shuts off the heating element of water heaters at night to prevent the hot water tank from continually reheating when no water is being used. It saves a percentage of the storage losses. Don't turn off the unit longer than 12 hours a day, as the stress from heating back up can be rough on it.
2. Add thermal blanket insulation to a water heater to reduce standby losses by 25–50% and save 4–8% in water heating costs. Be sure to reduce the water heater temperature set point to 120°F, too. A heater set 10°F too high costs an extra \$150 per year (at 600 gallons per day) in natural gas fuel costs.
3. Upgrade to low-flow pre-rinse spray valves to reduce water flow from 4.5 gallons per minute (gpm) to 1.6 gpm. The following table summarizes the annual hot water savings.

Spray Valve Use (hours per day)	Water Savings (gallons per day)	Annual Savings (\$)
1	60	130-160
2	120	260-320
3	180	400-500

4. Employ drainwater heat recovery to capture up to 15% of waste heat. While this is effective, it is expensive to retrofit and the need for waste heat must be coincident with the capture of waste heat. Rejected heat from the condenser of electric-powered refrigeration systems or compressed air systems can also be captured for heating water.

Reduce your water and fuel use today!

Call 1-800-787-1706, email energysavings@nationalgrid.com or visit ngrid.com/business.