

HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON GAS HEATING

MASTERING YOUR THERMOSTAT: SMART STRATEGIES FOR SAVING ON GAS HEATING

HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON GAS HEATING IS A PERENNIAL CONCERN FOR HOMEOWNERS AND RENTERS ALIKE, ESPECIALLY AS WINTER MONTHS APPROACH AND ENERGY BILLS BEGIN TO CLIMB. FORTUNATELY, BY IMPLEMENTING A COMBINATION OF SMART BEHAVIORAL CHANGES, STRATEGIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE, AND THOUGHTFUL HOME IMPROVEMENTS, YOU CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE YOUR NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION WITHOUT SACRIFICING COMFORT. THIS COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE WILL EXPLORE EFFECTIVE METHODS TO LOWER YOUR HEATING COSTS, FROM SIMPLE THERMOSTAT ADJUSTMENTS TO MORE INVOLVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES, ENSURING YOUR HOME STAYS WARM AND YOUR WALLET STAYS FULLER. WE WILL DELVE INTO OPTIMIZING YOUR HEATING SYSTEM, ENHANCING YOUR HOME'S INSULATION, AND ADOPTING ENERGY-CONSCIOUS HABITS THAT COLLECTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS.

- UNDERSTANDING YOUR HEATING SYSTEM'S EFFICIENCY
- SMART THERMOSTAT MANAGEMENT FOR GAS SAVINGS
- IMPROVING HOME INSULATION AND SEALING AIR LEAKS
- REGULAR MAINTENANCE FOR OPTIMAL GAS HEATING PERFORMANCE
- WINDOW AND DOOR STRATEGIES TO PREVENT HEAT LOSS
- LEVERAGING RENEWABLE AND ALTERNATIVE HEATING SOLUTIONS
- BEHAVIORAL CHANGES TO REDUCE GAS HEATING CONSUMPTION

UNDERSTANDING YOUR HEATING SYSTEM'S EFFICIENCY

THE FIRST STEP IN SAVING MONEY ON GAS HEATING IS TO UNDERSTAND THE EFFICIENCY OF YOUR CURRENT HEATING SYSTEM. MODERN FURNACES ARE RATED BY THEIR ANNUAL FUEL UTILIZATION EFFICIENCY (AFUE), WHICH INDICATES THE PERCENTAGE OF FUEL THAT IS CONVERTED INTO HEAT. AN OLDER FURNACE WITH AN AFUE OF 60% WASTES 40% OF THE GAS IT CONSUMES, WHILE A NEW, HIGH-EFFICIENCY MODEL CAN ACHIEVE AN AFUE OF 90% OR MORE, MEANING LESS WASTED ENERGY AND LOWER BILLS. KNOWING YOUR SYSTEM'S AFUE CAN HELP YOU DETERMINE IF AN UPGRADE MIGHT BE A WORTHWHILE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT.

ASSESSING FURNACE AGE AND AFUE RATING

FURNACES TYPICALLY HAVE A LIFESPAN OF 15 TO 25 YEARS. IF YOUR FURNACE IS NEARING THE END OF ITS OPERATIONAL LIFE, IT IS LIKELY OPERATING AT A LOWER EFFICIENCY THAN WHEN IT WAS NEW. LOOK FOR A STICKER ON THE UNIT ITSELF OR CONSULT YOUR OWNER'S MANUAL TO FIND THE AFUE RATING. EVEN A MODEST INCREASE IN AFUE CAN TRANSLATE TO NOTICEABLE SAVINGS OVER A HEATING SEASON. FOR INSTANCE, UPGRADING FROM A 70% AFUE FURNACE TO A 90% AFUE MODEL CAN REDUCE GAS CONSUMPTION FOR HEATING BY APPROXIMATELY 20%.

THE BENEFITS OF HIGH-EFFICIENCY GAS FURNACES

HIGH-EFFICIENCY GAS FURNACES, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS CONDENSING FURNACES, OPERATE DIFFERENTLY FROM OLDER MODELS. THEY EXTRACT ADDITIONAL HEAT FROM THE COMBUSTION PROCESS BY CONDENSING WATER VAPOR IN THE EXHAUST GASES, A BYPRODUCT THAT IS TYPICALLY VENTED OUT OF OLDER SYSTEMS. THIS RECOVERED HEAT IS THEN USED TO WARM YOUR HOME, SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING EFFICIENCY. WHILE THE INITIAL COST OF A HIGH-EFFICIENCY FURNACE IS HIGHER, THE LONG-TERM SAVINGS ON GAS BILLS, COUPLED WITH POTENTIAL TAX CREDITS AND REBATES, CAN MAKE IT A FINANCIALLY SOUND DECISION OVER THE UNIT'S LIFESPAN.

SMART THERMOSTAT MANAGEMENT FOR GAS SAVINGS

ONE OF THE MOST IMMEDIATE AND IMPACTFUL WAYS TO SAVE MONEY ON GAS HEATING IS THROUGH INTELLIGENT THERMOSTAT MANAGEMENT. THE GOAL IS TO AVOID HEATING YOUR HOME WHEN IT'S NOT NECESSARY OR WHEN YOU'RE NOT PRESENT, AND TO MAINTAIN A SLIGHTLY LOWER TEMPERATURE THAN YOU MIGHT BE ACCUSTOMED TO. SMALL ADJUSTMENTS CAN LEAD TO SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS IN YOUR NATURAL GAS USAGE.

PROGRAMMABLE AND SMART THERMOSTATS

INVESTING IN A PROGRAMMABLE OR SMART THERMOSTAT IS A GAME-CHANGER FOR ENERGY SAVINGS. A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT ALLOWS YOU TO SET DIFFERENT TEMPERATURE SCHEDULES FOR DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE DAY AND WEEK. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CAN PROGRAM IT TO LOWER THE TEMPERATURE OVERNIGHT WHEN EVERYONE IS SLEEPING AND DURING WORK HOURS WHEN THE HOUSE IS EMPTY. SMART THERMOSTATS GO A STEP FURTHER, LEARNING YOUR HABITS AND ALLOWING FOR REMOTE CONTROL VIA SMARTPHONE APPS, PROVIDING EVEN GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND CONTROL OVER YOUR HOME'S HEATING.

OPTIMIZING TEMPERATURE SETTINGS

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RECOMMENDS SETTING YOUR THERMOSTAT BACK 7-10 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT FOR 8 HOURS A DAY TO SAVE AS MUCH AS 10% A YEAR ON YOUR HEATING BILLS. THIS MEANS LOWERING THE TEMPERATURE WHILE YOU'RE ASLEEP OR AWAY FROM HOME. WHEN YOU ARE HOME AND AWAKE, AIM FOR A COMFORTABLE BUT NOT EXCESSIVELY WARM TEMPERATURE. MANY PEOPLE FIND 68 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT COMFORTABLE DURING WAKING HOURS. EACH DEGREE YOU LOWER YOUR THERMOSTAT CAN REDUCE YOUR HEATING COSTS BY ABOUT 1-3%.

UNDERSTANDING THERMOSTAT PLACEMENT

THE PLACEMENT OF YOUR THERMOSTAT IS CRUCIAL FOR ACCURATE TEMPERATURE READINGS AND EFFICIENT OPERATION. AVOID PLACING YOUR THERMOSTAT NEAR HEAT SOURCES SUCH AS LAMPS, TELEVISIONS, DIRECT SUNLIGHT, OR HEATING VENTS, AS THESE CAN CAUSE THE THERMOSTAT TO REGISTER A WARMER TEMPERATURE THAN THE ACTUAL ROOM TEMPERATURE, LEADING THE FURNACE TO RUN LONGER THAN NECESSARY. SIMILARLY, ENSURE IT'S NOT IN A DRAFTY AREA THAT WOULD CAUSE IT TO SENSE A COOLER TEMPERATURE AND TRIGGER THE FURNACE UNNECESSARILY.

IMPROVING HOME INSULATION AND SEALING AIR LEAKS

A WELL-INSULATED HOME AND A TIGHTLY SEALED ENVELOPE ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO RETAINING HEAT AND MINIMIZING THE WORKLOAD ON YOUR GAS FURNACE. HEAT NATURALLY FLOWS FROM WARMER AREAS TO COOLER AREAS, MEANING YOUR WARM INDOOR AIR WILL ESCAPE THROUGH CRACKS AND POORLY INSULATED SPACES. ADDRESSING THESE AREAS IS KEY TO EFFICIENT HEATING.

ATTIC AND WALL INSULATION

THE ATTIC IS OFTEN THE BIGGEST CULPRIT FOR HEAT LOSS BECAUSE HEAT RISES. ENSURING YOU HAVE ADEQUATE INSULATION IN YOUR ATTIC IS PARAMOUNT. THE RECOMMENDED R-VALUE (A MEASURE OF THERMAL RESISTANCE) VARIES BY CLIMATE ZONE, BUT GENERALLY, R-38 TO R-60 IS RECOMMENDED FOR ATTICS IN COLDER REGIONS. WALL INSULATION IS ALSO CRITICAL, THOUGH OFTEN MORE CHALLENGING TO RETROFIT IN EXISTING HOMES. IF YOU ARE UNDERTAKING RENOVATIONS, CONSIDER ADDING OR UPGRADING WALL INSULATION.

BASEMENT AND CRAWL SPACE INSULATION

DON'T OVERLOOK THE IMPORTANCE OF INSULATING YOUR BASEMENT CEILING AND CRAWL SPACES. UNHEATED BASEMENTS AND CRAWL SPACES CAN BE SIGNIFICANT SOURCES OF HEAT LOSS, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE NOT SEALED PROPERLY. INSULATING THESE AREAS HELPS TO KEEP THE LIVING SPACE ABOVE WARMER AND CAN ALSO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF DUCTWORK LOCATED IN THESE ZONES.

IDENTIFYING AND SEALING AIR LEAKS

AIR LEAKS CAN OCCUR AROUND WINDOWS, DOORS, ELECTRICAL OUTLETS, PLUMBING PENETRATIONS, AND WHERE WALLS MEET THE FOUNDATION. USING CAULK AND WEATHERSTRIPPING CAN SEAL MOST COMMON AIR LEAKS. FOR LARGER GAPS, FOAM SEALANT CAN BE EFFECTIVE. A SIMPLE WAY TO IDENTIFY LEAKS IS TO PERFORM A DIY INSPECTION ON A WINDY DAY OR HIRE A PROFESSIONAL TO CONDUCT A BLOWER DOOR TEST, WHICH CAN PRECISELY PINPOINT AREAS OF AIR INFILTRATION.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE FOR OPTIMAL GAS HEATING PERFORMANCE

CONSISTENT MAINTENANCE OF YOUR GAS HEATING SYSTEM IS NOT ONLY ESSENTIAL FOR ITS LONGEVITY BUT ALSO FOR ENSURING IT OPERATES AT PEAK EFFICIENCY, WHICH DIRECTLY TRANSLATES TO LOWER GAS CONSUMPTION AND COST SAVINGS. A WELL-MAINTAINED SYSTEM RUNS MORE SMOOTHLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

FURNACE TUNE-UPS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICING

SCHEDULE AN ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL TUNE-UP FOR YOUR GAS FURNACE. A QUALIFIED TECHNICIAN WILL INSPECT ALL COMPONENTS, CLEAN THE BURNER ASSEMBLY, CHECK FOR GAS LEAKS, TEST THE IGNITION SYSTEM, AND ENSURE THE SYSTEM IS RUNNING SAFELY AND EFFICIENTLY. THIS PROACTIVE APPROACH CAN PREVENT COSTLY BREAKDOWNS AND MAINTAIN OPTIMAL PERFORMANCE THROUGHOUT THE HEATING SEASON. PROFESSIONAL SERVICING ALSO ENSURES THE SYSTEM IS CALIBRATED CORRECTLY FOR MAXIMUM FUEL EFFICIENCY.

CLEANING OR REPLACING AIR FILTERS

A CLOGGED AIR FILTER RESTRICTS AIRFLOW TO YOUR FURNACE, MAKING IT WORK HARDER AND CONSUME MORE ENERGY. IT ALSO COMPROMISES INDOOR AIR QUALITY. CHECK YOUR AIR FILTER MONTHLY AND REPLACE OR CLEAN IT AS NEEDED, TYPICALLY EVERY 1-3 MONTHS DEPENDING ON THE FILTER TYPE AND HOUSEHOLD CONDITIONS (E.G., PETS, ALLERGIES). USING HIGH-QUALITY FILTERS CAN ALSO IMPROVE AIR CIRCULATION AND EFFICIENCY.

INSPECTING AND CLEANING DUCTS

LEAKY OR DIRTY DUCTWORK CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE EFFICIENCY OF YOUR HEATING SYSTEM. LEAKS IN THE DUCTS ALLOW HEATED AIR TO ESCAPE INTO UNCONDITIONED SPACES LIKE ATTICS OR CRAWL SPACES, AND DIRT BUILDUP CAN IMPEDE AIRFLOW. CONSIDER HAVING YOUR DUCTWORK INSPECTED FOR LEAKS AND PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED PERIODICALLY, ESPECIALLY IF YOU SUSPECT ISSUES. SEALING DUCT LEAKS CAN IMPROVE SYSTEM EFFICIENCY BY UP TO 20%.

WINDOW AND DOOR STRATEGIES TO PREVENT HEAT LOSS

WINDOWS AND DOORS ARE COMMON AREAS WHERE HEAT CAN ESCAPE YOUR HOME. IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE THEIR EFFICIENCY CAN MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE IN YOUR OVERALL GAS HEATING COSTS. THESE SOLUTIONS RANGE FROM SIMPLE DIY FIXES TO MORE SIGNIFICANT UPGRADES.

WEATHERSTRIPPING AND CAULKING DOORS AND WINDOWS

AS MENTIONED IN THE INSULATION SECTION, WEATHERSTRIPPING AND CAULKING ARE ESSENTIAL FOR SEALING GAPS AROUND DOORS AND WINDOWS. APPLY WEATHERSTRIPPING TO THE MOVING PARTS OF DOORS AND WINDOWS TO CREATE A TIGHT SEAL WHEN CLOSED. CAULK AROUND THE FRAMES OF WINDOWS AND DOORS WHERE THEY MEET THE WALL TO PREVENT DRAFTS. REGULARLY INSPECT THESE SEALS AND REAPPLY AS NEEDED.

USING INSULATED CURTAINS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS

HEAVY, INSULATED CURTAINS CAN ACT AS AN ADDITIONAL BARRIER AGAINST HEAT LOSS THROUGH WINDOWS. DURING THE DAY, OPEN CURTAINS ON SOUTH-FACING WINDOWS TO ALLOW SUNLIGHT TO NATURALLY WARM YOUR HOME. AT NIGHT, CLOSE ALL CURTAINS TO TRAP THE WARM AIR INSIDE. CELLULAR SHADES, ALSO KNOWN AS HONEYCOMB BLINDS, ARE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE DUE TO THEIR AIR-TRAPPING POCKETS.

CONSIDERING STORM WINDOWS OR WINDOW FILMS

FOR OLDER, SINGLE-PANE WINDOWS, INSTALLING STORM WINDOWS ON THE EXTERIOR OR INTERIOR CAN ADD AN EXTRA LAYER OF INSULATION AND REDUCE DRAFTS. ALTERNATIVELY, APPLYING INSULATING WINDOW FILMS CREATES A BARRIER THAT REDUCES HEAT TRANSFER. THESE FILMS ARE RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE AND EASY TO INSTALL YOURSELF, OFFERING A COST-EFFECTIVE WAY TO IMPROVE WINDOW ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

LEVERAGING RENEWABLE AND ALTERNATIVE HEATING SOLUTIONS

WHILE THIS ARTICLE FOCUSES ON SAVING MONEY ON GAS HEATING, IT'S WORTH NOTING THAT INTEGRATING RENEWABLE OR ALTERNATIVE HEATING METHODS CAN FURTHER REDUCE RELIANCE ON NATURAL GAS. THESE OPTIONS OFTEN COME WITH HIGHER UPFRONT COSTS BUT CAN OFFER SUBSTANTIAL LONG-TERM SAVINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS.

EXPLORING GEOTHERMAL HEATING SYSTEMS

GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMPS UTILIZE THE STABLE TEMPERATURE OF THE EARTH TO HEAT AND COOL YOUR HOME. THEY ARE HIGHLY EFFICIENT AND CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE OR EVEN ELIMINATE YOUR RELIANCE ON FOSSIL FUELS LIKE NATURAL GAS FOR HEATING. WHILE INSTALLATION IS COSTLY, THE LONG-TERM OPERATIONAL SAVINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVANTAGES ARE SUBSTANTIAL.

CONSIDERING SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEMS

SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEMS USE THE SUN'S ENERGY TO HEAT WATER, WHICH CAN THEN BE USED FOR SPACE HEATING. THESE SYSTEMS CAN SUPPLEMENT YOUR EXISTING GAS HEATING OR, IN SOME CASES, PROVIDE A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF YOUR HEATING NEEDS, THEREBY REDUCING YOUR GAS CONSUMPTION.

THE ROLE OF EFFICIENT APPLIANCES

WHILE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO SPACE HEATING, ENSURING YOUR OTHER GAS APPLIANCES (LIKE WATER HEATERS AND DRYERS) ARE ENERGY-EFFICIENT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO OVERALL GAS SAVINGS. MANY NEWER MODELS OFFER SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED EFFICIENCY OVER OLDER UNITS, REDUCING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF GAS USED IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

BEHAVIORAL CHANGES TO REDUCE GAS HEATING CONSUMPTION

BEYOND TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS AND MAINTENANCE, SIMPLE CHANGES IN YOUR DAILY HABITS CAN LEAD TO NOTABLE REDUCTIONS IN YOUR GAS HEATING EXPENSES. THESE ARE OFTEN THE EASIEST AND CHEAPEST WAYS TO START SAVING MONEY IMMEDIATELY.

LAYERING CLOTHING

ONE OF THE SIMPLEST YET MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO STAY WARM WITHOUT CRANKING UP THE THERMOSTAT IS TO LAYER CLOTHING. WEARING SWEATERS, SOCKS, AND EVEN A LIGHT JACKET INDOORS CAN ALLOW YOU TO COMFORTABLY LOWER THE THERMOSTAT BY A FEW DEGREES, LEADING TO IMMEDIATE SAVINGS ON YOUR GAS BILL.

UTILIZING NATURAL SUNLIGHT

MAXIMIZE THE FREE HEAT PROVIDED BY THE SUN. OPEN CURTAINS AND BLINDS ON SUNNY DAYS, ESPECIALLY ON SOUTH-FACING WINDOWS, TO ALLOW SOLAR GAIN. THIS PASSIVE HEATING CAN NOTICEABLY WARM YOUR HOME WITHOUT ANY ENERGY INPUT FROM YOUR FURNACE.

CLOSING OFF UNUSED ROOMS

IF YOU HAVE ROOMS IN YOUR HOUSE THAT ARE NOT FREQUENTLY USED, CONSIDER CLOSING THE VENTS IN THOSE ROOMS AND SHUTTING THE DOORS. THIS DIRECTS YOUR HEATING EFFORTS TO THE AREAS WHERE YOU SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME, PREVENTING WASTED ENERGY HEATING UNOCCUPIED SPACES. ENSURE THAT PIPES IN THESE ROOMS ARE ADEQUATELY PROTECTED FROM FREEZING IF NECESSARY.

BY SYSTEMATICALLY ADDRESSING EACH OF THESE AREAS, YOU CAN CREATE A MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT HOME AND SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER YOUR GAS HEATING BILLS. PROACTIVE MAINTENANCE, SMART TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION, AND MINDFUL DAILY HABITS ARE YOUR MOST POWERFUL ALLIES IN THE ONGOING EFFORT TO MANAGE AND REDUCE HEATING COSTS.

FAQ

Q: HOW MUCH CAN I REALISTICALLY SAVE ON GAS HEATING BY SIMPLY LOWERING MY THERMOSTAT?

A: LOWERING YOUR THERMOSTAT BY 7-10 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT FOR 8 HOURS A DAY CAN SAVE YOU APPROXIMATELY 10% ON YOUR ANNUAL HEATING BILL. EVEN A CONSISTENT 1-2 DEGREE REDUCTION WHEN YOU ARE HOME CAN LEAD TO NOTICEABLE SAVINGS OVER A FULL HEATING SEASON.

Q: WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO SCHEDULE PROFESSIONAL MAINTENANCE FOR MY GAS FURNACE?

A: THE IDEAL TIME TO SCHEDULE PROFESSIONAL MAINTENANCE FOR YOUR GAS FURNACE IS IN THE LATE SUMMER OR EARLY FALL, BEFORE THE HEATING SEASON BEGINS. THIS ENSURES YOUR SYSTEM IS IN OPTIMAL CONDITION AND READY TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST, AND IT OFTEN ALLOWS YOU TO BOOK APPOINTMENTS MORE EASILY THAN DURING PEAK DEMAND IN WINTER.

Q: ARE SMART THERMOSTATS WORTH THE INVESTMENT FOR SAVING MONEY ON GAS HEATING?

A: YES, SMART THERMOSTATS ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED A WORTHWHILE INVESTMENT. THEY OFFER ADVANCED SCHEDULING, LEARNING CAPABILITIES, AND REMOTE ACCESS, ALLOWING FOR PRECISE CONTROL OVER YOUR HEATING AND PREVENTING UNNECESSARY ENERGY USE WHEN YOU'RE AWAY OR ASLEEP. THE LONG-TERM SAVINGS ON GAS BILLS OFTEN OUTWEIGH THE INITIAL COST.

Q: WHAT IS THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF HEAT LOSS IN A HOME?

A: THE MOST COMMON CAUSES OF HEAT LOSS IN A HOME ARE INADEQUATE INSULATION (ESPECIALLY IN THE ATTIC) AND AIR LEAKS AROUND WINDOWS, DOORS, AND OTHER PENETRATIONS IN THE BUILDING ENVELOPE. HEAT RISES, MAKING ATTICS A SIGNIFICANT AREA FOR HEAT LOSS, WHILE DRAFTS FROM POOR SEALING CAN LET SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF WARM AIR ESCAPE.

Q: HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CHECK AND REPLACE THE AIR FILTER IN MY GAS FURNACE?

A: YOU SHOULD CHECK YOUR FURNACE'S AIR FILTER MONTHLY AND REPLACE OR CLEAN IT AS NEEDED, TYPICALLY EVERY 1 TO 3 MONTHS. THIS FREQUENCY CAN VARY BASED ON THE TYPE OF FILTER, THE PRESENCE OF PETS, AND ANY RESPIRATORY SENSITIVITIES IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD. A CLEAN FILTER ENSURES OPTIMAL AIRFLOW AND FURNACE EFFICIENCY.

Q: ARE THERE ANY GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES OR REBATES AVAILABLE FOR UPGRADING TO A MORE EFFICIENT GAS FURNACE?

A: YES, THERE ARE OFTEN GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES, UTILITY COMPANY REBATES, AND TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASING AND INSTALLING HIGH-EFFICIENCY NATURAL GAS FURNACES. IT IS ADVISABLE TO CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL UTILITY PROVIDERS, FEDERAL ENERGY PROGRAMS, AND STATE ENERGY OFFICES FOR CURRENT OFFERINGS AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

Q: CAN SEALING DUCTWORK SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT MY GAS HEATING BILL?

A: ABSOLUTELY. LEAKY DUCTWORK CAN ACCOUNT FOR A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF HEAT LOSS, POTENTIALLY WASTING 20% OR MORE OF THE HEATED AIR BEFORE IT EVEN REACHES YOUR LIVING SPACES. SEALING THESE LEAKS CAN LEAD TO SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS IN YOUR HEATING SYSTEM'S EFFICIENCY AND LOWER YOUR OVERALL GAS CONSUMPTION.

Q: WHAT IS THE RECOMMENDED TEMPERATURE FOR SLEEPING IN WINTER TO SAVE ON GAS HEATING?

A: FOR SLEEPING IN WINTER, IT IS GENERALLY RECOMMENDED TO SET YOUR THERMOSTAT BACK TO A TEMPERATURE BETWEEN 60-65 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT (15-18 DEGREES CELSIUS). THIS NOT ONLY HELPS CONSERVE ENERGY BUT CAN ALSO PROMOTE BETTER SLEEP QUALITY FOR MANY INDIVIDUALS. ENSURE YOU ARE ADEQUATELY COVERED WITH BLANKETS.

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