

Commercial Energy Efficiency Checklist

- ✓ Heating/cooling system tune-up
Enhance the performance of your heating and cooling systems with a tune-up. The right proportion of air and fuel is key, and a tune-up can help optimize air and fuel input for maximum energy efficiency. Too little air per unit of fuel causes unburned air to escape up the flue; too much air creates a higher draft that carries excess heat up and out.
- ✓ Boiler reset controls
Install boiler reset controls to adjust the water temperature in the building distribution system to correspond to outdoor air temperature fluctuations. You'll consume less energy in the heating system loop; reduce overheating in other building areas and increase seasonal efficiency.
- ✓ Boiler cut-out controls
Conserve energy by installing boiler cutout controls. They'll inhibit boiler operation when the outdoor temperature reaches a predetermined set point, so you'll avoid unnecessary energy use.
- ✓ Piping insulation
Improve overall system efficiency and void unnecessary heat loss by insulating your hot water system piping. Apply insulating material on pipes from the boiler to the heating equipment. When considering insulation, remember that the R-value, or heat retention capability of the material, is more important than its thickness. The greater the R-value, the greater the insulating capability.
- ✓ Programmable thermostat
Program your heating and cooling system for energy savings by installing a setback or programmable thermostat. By automatically lowering your heat setting or raising your cooling setting at night or during other unoccupied hours, you can save significant amounts of energy.
- ✓ Water heater insulation
Insulate your water heater to reduce heat loss. When considering insulation, remember that the R-value, or heat retention capability of the material, is more important than its actual thickness. The greater the R-value, the greater the insulating capability.
- ✓ Ceiling fans
Reduce ceiling temperatures and decrease energy loss through the roof by installing ceiling fans. They'll mix rising warm air and circulate it downward to maintain comfortable, even temperatures more efficiently.
- ✓ Occupancy sensors
Automate lights and exhaust fans in restrooms and employee break areas with occupancy sensors. Because these areas are not continually occupied, you'll save by operating lights and exhaust fans intermittently as people enter and leave.
- ✓ Air sealing materials
Seal air leaks around doors and windows, at roofline and roof penetrations to reduce air leaks and maintain even building temperatures. You'll add comfort and lower energy consumption by reducing hot or cold air drafts.
- ✓ Solar window film
Apply window film to reduce solar heat gain, a proven method for year-round energy efficiency. Many newer film types also help retain our heating system's warmth indoors during winter.
- ✓ Lighting
Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents and consider HID lights for parking. The compact fluorescent lamp's miniature U-shaped fluorescent tube and ballast creates super-energy-efficient design and fits many of the fixtures where you already use incandescent bulbs. High intensity discharge (HID) lights include mercury, vapor, metal halide and sodium. They are excellent, long-lived and efficient choices for parking and security lighting.