



## Give your home's energy use a vacation when you're on vacation

**G**oing on vacation? Even if you plan to be away for just a few days, you can save energy in your home when you travel. Here are a few tips from Norris Electric Cooperative that can give your utility bill a break when you take a break.

**Water heater.** Turn down the temperature on your water heater, so it loses less energy while you are away. If you're thinking about turning off the water heater at your electrical panel, and you have a Dual Meter for electric heat and air conditioning, check with RECC first to make sure your Dual Meter is not powered from your water heater breaker!

**Thermostat.** During hot weather, turn the thermostat higher on your air conditioning system. That way, you'll save energy while ensuring that your

home doesn't get too warm. If you're not too concerned with humidity, you can turn off the air conditioning at the thermostat.

**Refrigerator.** Depending on the food stored in your fridge, you may be able to turn the thermostat as high as 40 degrees without risking spoilage. Storing water-filled bottles in your refrigerator can prevent temperature fluctuations, which will save energy.

**Drapes.** Close the drapes on west-facing windows or others that catch the sun for several hours a day, to keep the rooms cooler. Don't close all drapes and signal that the house is empty, though!

**Lights.** Turn off all lights in your home. You may want to install timers on one or two lights for security.

**Electronics.** Unless you're recording something while away, unplug all of your electronic devices—computer, monitor and printer, TV and cable boxes, DVD player, microwave and digital clocks. Any electronics with digital displays, instant-on features or remote controls will consume energy even if they're not in use.

For other tips on how to save energy—and money—visit Touchstone Energy's energy-saving website or call the energy experts at Norris Electric Cooperative. Find out how the little changes add up at [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).

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