



power

Energy smart save

# Efficiency & Low Interest Loans

solutions

## Low-Interest Efficiency Loans

Mt. Wheeler Power offers low interest loans to help you finance energy efficiency improvements for your home or business.

## Does my home need energy improvements?

A home energy check that you can use to check your own home for energy efficiency is included in this brochure. Use it to determine areas where you may need to look more closely at areas for improvement.

## Home Energy Check List

- On a windy day, move a lighted candle around the frame of each window in your home. If the flame flickers, the window may need caulking.
- About 20 percent of cold drafts come in through electric light switches and outlets on exterior walls. To check for air-tightness, slowly move a lighted candle in front of these outlets
- Place a thin plastic bag in a cold fireplace. If the bag drifts upward, your damper isn't tight and should be replaced.
- Try to slip a quarter under each outside door and around the sides. If it goes through easily, the door needs weather-stripping.
- Does your hot water faucet drip? If so, you are losing up to 700 gallons or more of hot water each year per dripping faucet. Have new washers installed immediately.
- Check sash windows for air-tightness. Open each, insert a new dollar bill where the sashes meet, then shut. If you can pull the bill out without opening the window, the sashes are not tight. Do the same with your refrigerator door. Does the bill pull out? If so, you need a new gasket.
- Pull the refrigerator away from the wall and inspect the coils on the back or below the refrigerator. Brush or vacuum dust, lint and debris from the coils. This will allow the refrigerator to cool more efficiently.
- Lightly place your hands on your water heater tank. If it feels warm, it needs an insulation blanket. If your water heater is more than 10 years old, you might consider replacing it. Older water heaters will often have up to 1/3 of their capacity filled by lime deposits and newer models are much more energy efficient.
- Place a thermometer in a glass of cold water, then into the refrigerator. After ten minutes, check the reading. A refrigerator need not be cooler than 38 degrees in the food section. For food safety, be sure the temperature is set below 40 degrees. A separate freezer should be maintained at zero degrees.
- During winter, take temperature readings in your living room, attic and then outdoors. The attic should be only two or three degrees warmer than the outdoors. If it's 68 degrees in the living room, 50 degrees in the attic and 30 degrees outside, you're using precious heat to warm the attic, which means you need additional insulation. The recommended insulation level is R-38 and above.

Please contact Mt. Wheeler Power Member Services Department to get more information, discuss your project or request an application.

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