

Tips to Lower Demand

- 1. Water heater – Install a water heater timer.**
 - Your water heater works 24/7 to heat the water to the designated temperature.
 - Water heater timers limit run times, which lowers the amount of energy used. They cost from \$50-70 and can be purchased online or at most hardware stores. Hire a licensed and bonded electrician for the installation.
 - Set the water heater temperature to 120° or less.
 - Set the timer to operate from 6-8 a.m. or 5-8 a.m. each day. If your water heater is in a conditioned space, it should remain hot all day, unless you have a large family. If you need more hot water, increase the operation time in hour increments until it works for your family.
- 2. Dishwasher – Delay the start time for your dishwasher so that it doesn't run at the same time as other large appliances.**
 - Use the delay feature on your dishwasher or set a reminder on your phone to start the dishwasher just before going to bed.
- 3. Clothes dryer – Don't run large appliances simultaneously.**
 - Try not to use your clothes dryer at the same time as your water heater timer's preset hours or when using any other large appliances like a dishwasher or oven.
 - The washing machine uses much less demand than the dryer, but you typically use them together so you must consider their demand-use combined.
 - Try not to do laundry during the hottest parts of the day or on cold mornings to avoid your washer/dryer while your heat/AC are working hardest.
 - Use cold water when washing clothes and only do full loads.
 - Clean your dryer lint trap before each load.
- 4. HVAC/Heat pump – Install a smart (Wi-Fi enabled) or programmable thermostat.**
 - These are available to order online or at most hardware or electrical supply stores. Hire a licensed and bonded electrician to install the thermostat.
 - Set temperature to 78° in the summer and 68° in the winter – or as close to those as comfortably possible.
 - In winter, program the thermostat to a lower temperature when sleeping. In the summer, set the time to increase a degree or two when you're not home.
 - Change air filters regularly.
 - Consider replacing an older conventional AC/heating system with an energy-efficient heat pump.
 - Run ceiling fans ONLY when you are in the room.
- 5. Cooking – Do not use the oven, range (stove) and dishwasher all at the same time.**
 - Spread out your use of large appliances.
 - Use a crockpot instead of the oven, especially on hot days.