



**The Housing Department will be running a series of “Energy related info bites” to assist with energy saving techniques and energy information in general – please watch for them**

**Changing old habits are challenging but it can be done!**

**Simple things can make the difference!**

### **Turning it off**

- Turn lights off when not in use
- Unplug rechargeable electronic devices when not in use as they continue to consume energy
- Turn off computers, televisions and other electronic appliances when not in use

### **Turning it down**

- Turning the heat down by just 2 degrees can reduce your home heating costs by approximately 5%
- Turn the heat down at night or when you are away from your home during the day

### **Energy Tid-Bit:**

Most people’s hydro bills break down like this:

- Hot water heating – 22% (showering, washing clothes)
- Space heating – 60% (forced air heat, baseboard heat)
- Lighting – 5%
- Appliances – 13%

**Based on the approximate percentages mentioned** – if your bi-monthly hydro bill is \$400.00 then you may be paying the following:

- Hot water heating - \$88.00
- Space heating - \$240.00
- Lighting - \$20.00
- Appliances - \$52.00

For those of you who have electric baseboard heat:

- The biggest advantage of electric baseboard heaters is that you can control them room by room versus a central heating system (forced air)
- The key to electric baseboard heating is air-flow; anything blocking the heater will result in a decrease in efficiency. Keep furniture, drapes, clothes, toys etc. away from the baseboard to increase efficiency and eliminate potential fire hazards
- Vacuum your baseboard heaters in the early fall, just before turning them on again for the colder winter months. Dust and dirt can cause a significant increase in energy usage

**The main advantage of electric heat over natural gas heat is that it's very easy to heat a small space in a large house, without heating the whole house.**