Energy Saving Tips

• Set your thermostat at the highest comfortable temperature in the summer and lowest comfortable temperature in the winter.

• Use compact fluorescent light bulbs. While they may cost more initially, you can save $30 or more in electricity costs over each bulb’s lifetime. They also produce 75 percent less heat, which can cut home cooling costs.

• Take short showers instead of baths.

• Install low-flow shower heads.

• Change air conditioning and furnace filters on a regular basis.

• Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater to 120 degrees.

• Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes. The average load of laundry uses up to 32 gallons of water.

• Plug home electronics into power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use. TVs and DVD players use several watts of power even in standby mode.

• Look for the ENERGY STAR label on home appliances and products. ENERGY STAR products meet strict efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Tips from U.S. Department of Energy
The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low-income South Dakota households overcome the high cost of energy by making their homes more energy efficient.

Home weatherization services may include:
- Weather-stripping doors and windows
- Caulking and sealing cracks and holes in building structures
- Insulating attics, walls and under floors
- Repairing, tuning or replacing non-functional heating systems
- Incidental repairs necessary to protect the weatherization material

Who is eligible?
Eligibility for the Weatherization Assistance Program is based on household income.
Families with an annual income of up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level may be eligible for assistance.
Priority is given to the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and families with children under 19.

How do I apply?
Contact the Community Action Agency serving your county (see map at right) to request an application; or access a printable application online at dss.sd.gov/weatherization.

Where can I get more information?
Weatherization work is completed by four different community action agencies serving specific counties throughout the state. Use the map and contact information on the right to find the agency serving your area.