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## tips sheet

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### *Media Contacts:*

Mark Treichel / Robyn Nowak  
Hoffman York  
(414) 225-9554 / (414) 225-9520  
mtreichel@hyc.com  
rnowak@hyc.com

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Use at will - October 2009

## Using ENERGY STAR® Qualified CFLs is a Great First Step

*- Switching to CFLs is easy, but there are many more ways to be environmentally friendly and save on energy costs -*

Want to “go green?” Using CFLs is a great start, but there are many more steps to take. Focus on Energy recommends the following to consumers who want a more energy efficient future:

1. **Switch to ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs.** One CFL saves about \$30 in energy costs over its lifetime, plus Focus is offering ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs for a discounted price, beginning October 1 for a limited time.
2. **Look for the STAR.** By looking for the ENERGY STAR when replacing appliances or electronics, you will save energy and money.
3. **Replace furnace filter.** Replace the filter in your furnace monthly and make sure the supply and return registers aren't obstructed.
4. **Use an ENERGY STAR qualified programmable thermostat.** By automatically adjusting the temperature setting while you are asleep or away, you can save up to \$100 per year.
5. **Weatherize your home.** Seal and caulk leaky doors, add insulation and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers.
6. **Stop letting the air escape.** Keep windows and doors closed to prevent loss of cooled or heated air.
7. **Close the damper.** To prevent cold air from coming down the chimney and into the house, close the fireplace damper when not in use.
8. **Conserve hot water.** Water-conserving showerheads and faucet aerators can cut hot water use in half. A family of four can save 12,000 gallons of water a year.\*
9. **Maintain your heating system.** Have your furnace cleaned and checked regularly. Your equipment will use less energy when operating at its optimum performance level.
10. **Turn down the water heater.** Set your water heater temperature to 120°F. Each 10°F reduction can save up to 5 percent on water heating costs.

\* Information provided by The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE).