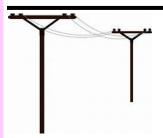


P.O. BOX 386, HYSHAM, MT 59038



ALONG THESE LINES . . .



SOME ENERGY-SAVING MYTHS

Myth: Closing the vents in rooms you're not using saves energy. Unfortunately, this is a false assumption. Closing a vent doesn't actually save any energy and it could have negative effects on your heating and cooling system. Restricting air at one vent just means it will be redirected to another, or it might even escape through leaks in your duct system. Your system will end up using the same amount of energy no matter how many vents are open. Furthermore, closing your vents may cause additional pressure on your system, causing it to work harder, wear out faster and consume more energy in the long run.

Myth: The higher the thermostat setting, the faster the home will heat (or cool). Many people think that walking into a chilly room and raising the thermostat to 85 degrees will heat the room more quickly. This is not true. Thermostats direct a home's HVAC system to heat or cool to a certain temperature. Drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how **quickly** you feel warmer. The same is true for cooling. The U.S. Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 degrees during summer months, and 68 degrees during winter months.

Myth: Opening the oven door to check on a dish doesn't really waste energy. While it can be tempting to check the progress of that dish you're cooking in the oven, opening the oven door does waste energy. Every time the oven door is opened, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, delaying the progress of your dish and, more importantly, costing you additional money. If you need to check the progress of a dish, try using the oven light instead.

Myth: Electronics are not using energy if they are off. Actually, many devices such as TVs, DVD players and coffeepots continue to use electricity when they are turned off because they have a standby mode. This is called "vampire energy". The best way to ensure you are not using energy is to unplug them or use a power strip that you can switch off when you are not using them.

Source: Intenet and Abby Berry

ID-YELLOWSTONE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

Appliances That Use The Most Energy

Knowing how to save energy in the winter is a must, especially as weather has the single largest impact on your energy bill.

One way in helping to save energy in the winter is to first know what types of appliances around your home are using the most energy. Here are the top nine:

- 1. Cooling and heating: 47% of energy use
- 2. Water heater: 14% of energy use
- 3. Washer and dryer: 13% of energy use
- 4. Lighting: 12% of energy use
- 5. Refrigerator: 4% of energy use
- 6. Electric oven: 3-4% of energy use
- 7. TV, DVD, cable box: 3% of energy use
- 8. Dishwasher: 2% of energy use9. Computer: 1% of energy use

Source: Internet

DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE?

Call Action for Eastern Montana at **1-800-227-0703** to get help through LIEAP or Energy Share of Montana. Applications can be picked up at the office of MYEC, or go on-line to get an application at *myec.coop*.



Happy Valentine's Day

Nondiscrimination Statement

Mid-Yellowstone Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint filing cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Mark your calendars now —



Mid-Yellowstone's 86th Annual Meeting

on March 19th...

MYEC Annual Meeting will be held in Hysham this year.

IN CASE OF OUTAGE:

At <u>all hours</u> of the day or night, you may contact MYEC by calling:

406-342-5521 or **888-392-5521**

BEFORE YOU CALL...

- 1. Check all breakers and fuses in the building.
- 2. Check the breakers below your meter.
- 3. Check to see if your neighbors have power.