

# Your Energy Connection



July 2015

## Save Money by Scheduling Your FREE Energy Audit!

### ***Are you looking for ways to reduce your home's energy usage and save money on your utility bill?***

If so, take the first step by scheduling an **Energy Audit!** Energy audits are **FREE** for all Rocky Mount Public Utilities (RMPU) customers. During an energy audit, trained auditors will visit your home to help you pinpoint where your house is losing energy and what you can do to save money.

Part of the audit includes a walk-through of the home, including the interior, attic and crawl space. The auditors will look for potential energy savings in the following areas:

#### **Attic**

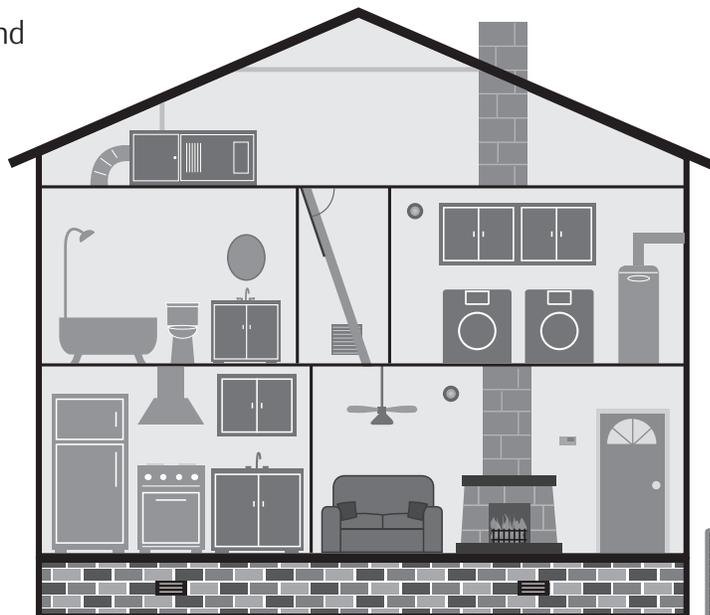
- Inspect insulation and check for air leaks

#### **Kitchen and Bathrooms**

- Check under sinks for air leaks around piping
- Test hot water temperature

#### **Crawl Space:**

- Look for subfloor insulation
- Check condition of duct work and inspect for moisture



#### **Living Spaces**

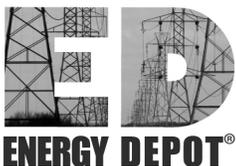
- Check thermostat type and settings
- Inspect fireplace damper
- Look for smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- Check return filter
- Look for electrical dangers

#### **Utility Room**

- Check thermostat on water heater and insulation of tank and piping

#### **Outside HVAC Unit**

- Check condition of coils



**No time for an onsite Energy Audit? No problem!** Perform your own energy audit by using Energy Depot, an online "toolbox" for energy information. By using Energy Depot, you can receive a "snapshot" of your home's energy usage and receive recommendations for savings. There are also tools for appliance cost comparisons and a glossary for energy terms. Visit [www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/programs.html](http://www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/programs.html) for more information.

## TempTracker365



Extreme hot or cold weather affects your usage and monthly utility bill. Visit [www.temptracker365.com](http://www.temptracker365.com) to see which days,

weeks, or months were extremely hot or cold, causing your heating or cooling system to run longer.

### Save Money with Load Management!

Sign up today! Load Management helps lower the cost of electricity citywide and allows customers to earn the following monthly credits on their bills:

- Electric Water Heater: \$2.00 credit per month
- Electric Heat Strips: \$15.00 credit per month during three months of winter
- Central Air Conditioner: \$20.00 credit per month during three months of summer

For more information or to sign up for the Load Management Program, call (252) 467-4803 or visit [www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/loadmanagement.html](http://www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/loadmanagement.html).

### Switch Bulbs for Energy Savings

According to [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov), by changing your five most frequently used light fixtures or bulbs with models that have earned the ENERGY STAR, you can save \$40 each year.

ENERGY STAR certified compact fluorescent light (CFL) and light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs provide the same brightness (lumens) as incandescents with less energy (watts). (Lumens indicate light output; watts indicate energy consumed.) Use the following chart when shopping for bulbs to determine how many lumens you need to match the brightness of your old incandescent bulbs.

Incandescent Bulbs (Watts)	ENERGY STAR Bulb Brightness (Minimum Lumens)
40	450
60	800
75	1,100
100	1,600
150	2,600

For more information, visit [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov).



## E-newsletter Available

Would you like to receive *Your Energy Connection* newsletter by email? To subscribe, visit [www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/communications.html](http://www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/communications.html) or email [energyspecialist@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:energyspecialist@rockymountnc.gov).

### Connect With Us!

Connect with us to learn about news, events, outage restoration updates, safety and energy-saving tips!



Like us on Facebook at

[Facebook.com/RockyMountPublicUtilities](https://www.facebook.com/RockyMountPublicUtilities)



Follow us on Twitter @rmtpu



Sign up for [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com), the free and private social network for neighborhoods

### Portable Home Generators:

#### Stay Safe after the Storm

Your portable generator can be a lifesaver during emergencies, but remember to follow these simple tips to prevent injury to your family and utility workers restoring power:



- Only use generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from doors, windows, vents and other openings. This will prevent exhaust fumes from entering the home. Also, install carbon monoxide detectors (either battery-operated or plug-in with battery backup) inside the home.
- Do not attach a generator directly to the electrical system of a structure unless the generator has a properly installed transfer switch. Only use a generator wired by a qualified electrician.
- Keep the generator dry. Shut down the generator before refueling.
- Plug electric appliances directly into the generator using manufacturer's supplied cords or undamaged, grounded, heavy-duty extension cords.
- Maintain and operate the generator according to the manufacturer's use and safety instructions.

