

Make Clean Air Count with Energy Efficient Lighting in your Home

What can save you more than \$8,000 over 30 years and also improve your ability to read at night? Energy-efficient lighting, of course.

By replacing standard bulbs with energy-efficient bulbs, you can save about \$78 a year, assuming a three-bulb purchase year. While the initial purchase of an energy-efficient bulb might result in a higher-than-average price, the savings incurred through their efficient use of energy and long operating life can offset the initial pinch of the item's cost.

To get the maximum cost benefit from these bulbs, they should be used in fixtures that are left on for hours at a time – like outdoor lanterns or security floodlights, hallways, landings, or your most lived-in rooms. A compact florescent light bulb costs about \$8, but can last 10 times longer than a regular bulb. Better yet, these bulbs use about 75 percent less energy, saving the average homeowner approximately \$26 in energy bills over the bulb's lifetime.

Benefits of energy-efficient lighting practices include:

- Reduced emissions of nitrogen oxide, carbon dioxide, and sulfur dioxide into the environment for better air quality
- Improve electricity system reliability
- Reduced electrical and cooling loads in buildings
- Lower electricity costs (roughly 10-15%)
- Lower maintenance costs
- More appropriate lighting levels
- Natural lighting is aesthetically pleasing

Find out how you can make Clean Air Count by visiting www.cleanaircounts.org. Make your home and/or community a leader at making our air cleaner, our quality of life better and our home climate more inviting.

Clean Air Counts is a six-county Chicago regional initiative of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region V, City of Chicago and Illinois EPA. It seeks significant reductions in smog-forming pollutants and energy consumption.

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