

Fact Sheet: Winter Heating

It's winter, and it's pretty chilly down here in the south west. Our average daytime temperatures in July and August are 16 and 17 degrees, dipping as low as 8 degrees overnight. **Heating and cooling are around 40% of our home energy use.** Did you know that here in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River we use more power in winter than summer? Here are a few tips to help you keep your bills - and emissions - down this winter.

5 ways to reduce your emissions this winter

Draught Proofing

Weather seals around doors and windows will help keep the heat in during winter. Doors can account for 25% of your heating and cooling bills. Draught excluders and heavy draping can help reduce heat loss, but improving the quality of your doors and windows is a more long term, energy efficient move.

Curtains or Blinds

Well-fitting curtains and blinds trap a layer of air next to the window and prevent heat loss. Open the curtains during the day to let the winter sun in, but close them before dark to keep the heat in the house. Up to 40% of a home's heating energy can be lost and up to 87% of its heat gained through windows

Go Green

Green power is available right across Augusta Margaret River so consider switching over to cleaner power. A quick online search will give you a few options to investigate.

Keep the Heat Consistent

Don't be tempted to boost your thermostat to heat the house! That initial surge of power is pricey and a big emission driver. Set your temperature between 16 and 20 degrees to keep your home warm and your bills (and emissions) down.

Fans

Ceiling fans can keep you warmer! Switch the fan to reverse or 'winter mode' to help mix the warm air more effectively through the room. Reversing the direction of the fan pulls the cooler air up and pushes the warm air down into the living area. Running a heater and a fan may sound crazy, but it could actually save you money! Fans are much cheaper to run than power hungry heaters, and 'winter mode' means that your heater doesn't have to work so hard to maintain a toasty temperature.

AMRCCE is a not-for-profit community action group dedicated to reducing overall carbon emissions in Augusta Margaret River.

Our community's desire to reduce carbon emissions led the Shire of Augusta Margaret River to commit to reducing carbon emissions from energy consumption. Our role is to spearhead community projects to help us reach our ambitious target of Net Zero by 2030.

We're aiming for an overall 20% emissions reduction through a decrease in consumption, increase in clean energy use and other strategies that lower our carbon footprint.

If you want to join us go to www.amrcce.com.au or info@amrcce.com.au

Special thanks for support from:



**TRANSITION
Margaret River**



Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee



Government of Western Australia
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