

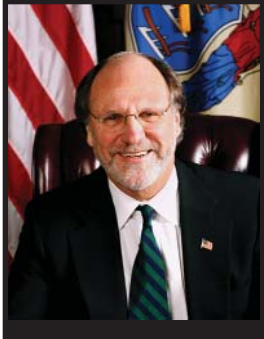


Fall Conservation Tips

DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE
Division of Rate Counsel



Fall Into Conservation



Jon Corzine
Governor



Ronald K. Chen
Public Advocate

Make Sure Conservation Procedures Are Part Of Your Regular Winterizing Routine This Fall. This Will Reduce Your Utility Bills And Protect Our Precious Natural Resources.

The temperature has begun to drop, the days are shorter and the birds are starting to fly south. All of this means one thing, fall is on the way. We strongly urge consumers to begin to conserve energy and yes, even water as you begin preparations for the cold months ahead.

Fall Energy Conservation Tips

Take these steps now to prepare for the cold winter months ahead:

- If you don't remove your window air conditioner units for the winter, be sure to seal them with caulking or tape and cover them with an airtight, insulated jacket.
- Check the weather stripping on exterior doors and windows. Adjust or replace it if you can see light or feel a draft.
- Insulate your water heater and lower the water temperature to 120 degrees.
- Move furniture and curtains away from heating vents or radiators. This will allow the heat to circulate freely through the room
- Install a programmable thermostat that will automatically adjust the temperature in your home while you're sleeping or out of the house.
- Check your furnace and always clean or replace furnace filters once per month.

Fall Water Conservation Tips

Even though it is autumn and water usage is down, you should still conserve and live a water-wise lifestyle:

- Sweep patios, driveways and sidewalks. Never hose paved surfaces.
- If you are still watering your plants, lawns and gardens, remember they require less water in the fall as daylight hours have become shorter and the sun's intensity has decreased. As the days get shorter, so should your watering times.
- Be conservative when washing your car. Wash your car with a bucket and only turn on the hose to wet and rinse your vehicle.
- Now is a good time to make sure your irrigation system is working properly. Fix all leaks and broken heads.
- Make a stronger commitment to water conservation inside the home by turning off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving. Also, never pour water down the drain if there is another use for it such as watering a plant or cleaning around the home.