

SAVE BIG \$\$\$ EVERY MONTH!

Utility Bills

1. Lower your electric rates:
 - Go to the www.powertochoose.org website and select a provider with a low rate. (This information is offered in both English and Spanish). These providers offer rates both with and without contracts. No computer? The Rockwall, Royse City and Rowlett libraries will let you use their computers free. The Rockwall Public Library is located at 1215 Yellow Jacket Lane -- in front of the Rockwall High School football stadium and one block east of Goliad Road (SH 205). The library staff can show you how to use the free computers if you need help.
 - Contact several providers and ask about their Low Income Electric Discount Program (LITE-UP Texas) and other low-income services.
2. Reduce your electric and gas usage:
 - Set your thermostat at 78-80 degrees or higher in the summer and 68-70 degrees or lower in the winter. Use fans!
 - Unplug small appliances when not in use (toaster, coffee maker, can opener, micro wave oven, toaster oven, hair dryers, curling irons, etc.). These appliances use electricity even when not in use!
 - Unplug cell phone chargers when not in use. They continue to use electricity!
 - Lower your electric or gas hot water heater to medium (120 degrees). (Your water will still be plenty hot!)
 - Turn off your computer when not in use. (Use the "shut down" feature from the "start" menu). Turn off your printer when not in use.
 - Replace your air filters regularly.
 - Turn off lights when not in use. Use the new energy efficient bulbs.
 - Keep doors to the outside closed at all times when using heat or air conditioning.
3. Fix any dripping or leaky faucets.

General Household Expenses

1. Reduce your automobile insurance. Shop around with various companies. Consider dropping collision and comprehensive if your vehicle is old and paid off.
2. Groceries: Shop at super centers or grocery stores. Buy store brands and weekly specials. Use coupons generally found in Sunday's Dallas Morning News or on line at such websites as www.couponmom.com. The various "Dollar Stores" frequently have food staples at lower prices than supermarkets. Never buy groceries at convenience stores!
3. Use only basic television and internet service.