



# Make Pittsburgh Even Cooler in October:

Choose greener ways to heat your home

*This October, get ready for winter while reducing global warming pollution.*

- **Turn your furnace thermostat down two degrees**

According to the EPA, you can save up to 6 percent on your energy bills when you turn your furnace thermostat down by two degrees. This action is easy, especially if you install a programmable thermostat (which is a separate campaign action – see April’s materials) or get in the habit of turning your thermostat down while you’re asleep or away from home! This will not only save you energy and money, but will also prevent up to 400 pounds of heat-trapping gases per year.

- **Get an energy audit**

Energy audits measure how well your home is using energy. They also pinpoint where your home is wasting energy. During an energy audit, an auditor will inspect your insulation, air sealing, heating and cooling system, and your use of water and electricity. In the long run, an energy audit will help you get the most for your money, saving you up to 30 percent on your utility bills and reducing up to 3,549 pounds of global warming pollution each year. For a list of the many tax credits and rebates available to make the recommended improvement, go to: <http://www.GetEnergySmarter.com/saveMoney.html>

Contact these local experts for an energy audit:

**Conservation Consultants, Inc.**

412-431-4449 x225

[GetEnergySmarter.com/energyAud.html](http://www.GetEnergySmarter.com/energyAud.html)

**Vox Energy Solutions**

412-366-4361

[VoxEnergySolutions.com/homeenergyaudits.html](http://VoxEnergySolutions.com/homeenergyaudits.html)

- **Insulate your home**

A home with thin or missing insulation will constantly lose heat or cold, wasting both your energy and money. Good insulation, on the other hand, will help you save money and energy all year round. It will keep heat and air conditioning inside where it belongs, improve your overall home comfort, and reduce global warming pollution in the bargain. To improve or replace your insulation, you first need to find out - usually through an energy audit - where you have, don’t have, and should have, insulation in your home. After that, you can decide what kind of insulation is best.

Some local companies that can install or replace your insulation:

**Mincin Insulation Service**

800-734-7966

<http://www.mincin-insulation.com/index.html>

**Option Insulating**

(412) 884-6700

<http://www.optioninsulating.com/insulation.htm>

- **Track Your Progress**

Go to our website ([www.theblackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com](http://www.theblackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com)) and fill in the tracking form so we can measure how much we’re all cutting our heat-trapping gases. No computer? No problem. Call us at 412-258-6680 or fill in one of the postcards available throughout the city.