## Have an Energy Smart Winter!



The following energy saving steps will reduce your energy consumption and save you money

### Weatherize and insulate your home!

- √ Make sure your attic is well insulated.
- √ Seal cracks around windows and doors.
- √ Insulate outside walls, as well as floors over unheated basements and crawl spaces.
- √ Choose energy-efficient windows if you are replacing older windows.
- $\sqrt{}$  Insulate and seal heating and cooling ducts poorly sealed ducts can waste 10 to 30% of your total energy costs.

#### Have your heating system checked and change your furnace filter!

- √ Change filters once a month, or as needed dirty filters will slow air flow and require your furnace to run longer to heat your home.
- √ Have your furnace serviced before each heating season.
- √ Shut off heat to any unused storage area and close vents to any unused bedrooms.

# Improve the efficiency of your water heater - water heating accounts for 14% of your energy bill!

- √ Wrap your hot water tank with an insulating water heating blanket.
- √ Insulate hot water pipes with foil-faced fiberglass insulation or foam insulation sleeves.
- √ Lower your water temperature to 120° or 140° if you use a dishwasher.

#### Lower your thermostat when you're not at home!

- √ Install a programmable thermostat and set it for 65° or lower at night, and 55° when no one is home.
- $\sqrt{\ }$  Save 20% or more on your heating costs by lowering your thermostat 10° for two 8-hour periods a day.
- $\sqrt{\mbox{For each degree you lower the setting, you can save approximately 3% on your heating bills.}$

For more tips and information on programs to help improve the energy efficiency of your home, visit www.GetEnergySmart.org or dial 1-877-NYSMART