

Building Savings Tips

Occupancy-Based Strategic Energy Management

Want to operate more efficiently? Check out our tips below:

Lighting

- Conduct a lighting assessment to determine whether you could benefit from de-lamping if your building is over-lit.
- Install occupancy sensors in every room to control light fixtures.
- Retrofit incandescent and CFL bulbs with LED bulbs.
- Retrofit fluorescent bulbs or fixtures with LED bulbs or fixtures.
- Utilize daylight harvesting to control exterior and perimeter lighting.
- Install bi-level lighting controls in stairwells

Water Heating

- Lower domestic hot water setpoint to 120 °F - 140 °F.
- Insulate water heater and compressed air tanks.
- Insulate chilled water, steam, and hot water pipes.
- Install low-flow water fixtures.
- Install automatic faucet shutoff or motion sensor-activated faucets.
- Replace electric resistance water heaters with heat pump water heaters.

HVAC & HVAC Controls

- Utilize Building Automation System (BAS) data to monitor the HVAC system performance and devise a process plan to run the building at optimally.
- Institute chilled water reset controls.
- Schedule building HVAC system to be more reflective of its occupancy. Contact the OB SEM team (contact information provided at the bottom) for an occupancy survey.
- Install economizers on existing air handling units and rooftop units.
- Install Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) on primary hot water and chilled water pumps and motors.
- Install programmable thermostats in small buildings and set them at energy efficient settings:
 - Occupied: Heating: 70°F. Cooling: 75°F.
 - Unoccupied: Heating: 60°F. Cooling: 80°F.
- For pneumatically controlled buildings, implement an annual compressed air leak survey program.
- Implement a chiller and boiler tune-up program every 2 years. [Rebates may apply.](#)

Miscellaneous

- Install perimeter heating at exterior glass and building entrances to create a thermal barrier that separates the building's conditioned air from the environment.
- Insulate building walls, roof, and ground-level floors, where appropriate.
- Weatherize infiltration points in the building to lower HVAC loads and increase occupant comfort.
- Consider switching to ENERGY STAR® vending machines or retrofitting existing machines with occupancy sensors.



Consumers Energy

Count on Us®

Learn More!

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