

## September Truro Talks

### Tips on saving energy and money in the cooler months.

It may be hard to believe that we will have cold weather again, but it is just around the corner. There are many things we can do all year to save energy, which protects our environment and saves us money.

Here are 11 tips for saving energy.

1. Weatherstrip doors and windows to seal out drafts; use draft stoppers.
2. Get a yearly checkup of your heating system.
3. Don't block air vents.
4. Turn down the heat when you're out for the day and at night when sleeping; put on warm clothes before turning up the thermostat.
5. Close curtains or blinds at night to keep out the cold air.
6. Use a microwave or toaster oven rather than a conventional stove.
7. Turn off lights and appliances when not using them; unplug appliances when not in use.
8. Use cold water cycles in clothes washing machines; hang up clothes to dry or if you're using a dryer and have more than one load, do the second load right after the first, when the machine is still warm.
9. Replace your hot water heater with an energy efficient one, and in the meantime, use less hot water, lower the thermostat on the heater, and insulate the heater and the first 6 feet of the cold and hot water pipes.
10. Don't leave outdoor lights or decorative lights on all night; consider using sensor or solar lights for outdoors and either turn off or put indoor lights on timers.
11. Get solar panels; a consultation is free and there are significant rebates available. There are many companies now installing them; find them online or ask friends or neighbors who they used. Any company you choose will walk you through the process.

One of the most important and easy things we can do is get a home energy assessment from Cape Light Compact (781-586-8848; [capelightcompact.org](http://capelightcompact.org)). It is a free and very helpful service for owners and renters, which can provide you with free supplies, valuable information about your current energy usage and how to lower it, and you may get significant savings on improvements they recommend.

Questions or suggestions about addressing climate change? Contact Truro's Climate Action Committee at [climateaction@truro-ma.gov](mailto:climateaction@truro-ma.gov)

**Article 53: Establishing a Net Zero Building Standard for Town Funded Building Projects- Petitioned Article**

To see if the Town will vote to:

To request that ~~have~~ the Select Board instruct ~~charge~~ the Climate Action Committee ~~and Energy Committee~~ to work with the ~~Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals,~~ and other pertinent ~~Town~~ committees to define a standard for Carbon Net Zero ~~standard for new~~ constructions and submit ~~deliver~~ that standard for approval to Town Meeting 2023. ~~When approved the Town of Truro should no longer provide funding in part or whole to any building that does not meet such standard.~~

or take any other action relative thereto.

Introduced Citizen Amendment

Select Board Recommendation	0	3	1
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*Article 53: Moved and seconded to approve the amendment for Article 53. Article 53 passes as amended by majority vote in Favor as declared by the Moderator.*