



NPT Home Inspection Services

Energy Rating Solutions

At NPT Home Inspection Services we understand that it's not just after a Recommendation Report in an EPC that changes can be made - the biggest long-term savings come from changing energy habits and being more energy efficient around the working environment. It's a good idea for your business to re-invest this money in energy saving products and appliances to reduce your energy consumption even further. The long-term savings will more than pay for the cost of purchasing and installing these measures.

“Save money, save energy & start reducing CO₂ emissions.”

Helpful Energy Saving Tips for your Business

Fuel, Heating and Lighting Tips:

- Ensure there are no obstructions (i.e. filing cabinets or stationery cupboards) in front of radiators.
- Set your radiator thermostat to reasonable levels. The statutory aim is 19°C
- If it gets too hot in the winter, don't open a window; try turning down the radiator first.
- Ensure all extractor fans are off overnight and when not required.
- Don't leave doors open between areas of a different temperatures.
- Put aluminium foil behind any radiators fitted to an outside wall to stop heating escaping through the walls.
- Keep doors and windows closed in air-conditioned areas. If you don't your letting the cool air escape requiring further cooling.
- Compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFL's) use two-thirds less energy and last up to 10 times longer than incandescent lightbulbs OR replace T-12 fluorescent tubes with T-8 fluorescent tubes as they increase energy efficiency by at least 17%.
- Try to use as much natural light as possible - working nearer windows will save turning on lights so often and ensure windows are kept clean.
- Switch off lights whenever you leave the room (toilets and cupboards, meeting rooms, and when you leave the work area at lunch times and in the evenings).
- Between your colleagues make sure the last person to leave in the evenings is responsible for turning off all lights in the work area. If you have cleaners in after the business had closed in the evening then ask them to turn off all lights when they leave.
- Consider a car-share scheme with work colleagues to reduce traffic pollution and fuel costs.



Electrical Appliances:



- Switch off appliances when not in use, items left on standby can still use up to 85% of energy to keep them powered down.
- Leaving appliances on standby will also reduce the life span of the appliance.
- A typical computer left running for 24 hours can use up to £70 of electricity over 1 year, ensuring staff turn off their PC's every evening will make a vast saving.
- 'A' rated electrical appliances use far less electricity than conventional models and can help reduce fuel bills and reduce CO₂ emissions.

Recycle:

- Use cups and glasses instead of the plastic throw away cups.
- Recycle paper, drinks cans, plastic containers and printer cartridges instead of throwing them away.
- Do you really need to print and post? You can send the document electronically by email or fax instead or if you do need to print use both sides of the sheet; these small changes will reduce the amount of paper used in the office considerably.
- Buy local products, from stationary to electrical equipment, this will promote a healthy local economy and will reduce fuel consumption in transporting your goods.



Refrigeration:



- Avoid leaving the fridge door open. Avoid putting hot or warm food straight into the fridge; allow it to cool first.
- Defrost the fridge regularly to keep it running efficiently and cheaply. If it seems to frost up quickly, check the door seal. It makes sense to avoid putting your fridge next to an oven or boiler.

Cooking:

- Match the size of the ring to the size of the saucepan or you will be paying to heat the air. Gas flames should only heat the bottom of the pan (not the sides).
- Use a lid on saucepans, so the contents heat more quickly and you use less energy.
- Pressure cookers, steamers and microwaves save energy.
- Turn off appliances after use.



Hot water:



- Only boil as much water in the kettle as needed.
- In hard water areas, de-scale the kettle to keep it working efficiently for longer. At least twice a year, soak the element overnight in vinegar.
- Is your water too hot? Your cylinder thermostat shouldn't need to be set higher than 60°C/140°F.
- A dripping tap can waste up to 4 litres of water a day so replace worn tap washers.



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