

Assemblywoman  
**AMY PAULIN**

**88th Assembly District**

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**Assemblywoman, 88th Assembly District**



Dear Neighbor,

I was very proud to be named the Chair of the New York State Assembly Committee on Energy this year. This new position has afforded me the opportunity to play a greater role in protecting utility customers while encouraging and facilitating the use of renewable energy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Amy Paulin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" and last name "Paulin" clearly legible.

Amy R. Paulin  
Chair, Committee on Energy

## Legislative highlights

- Sponsored the NY-Sun Act of 2013, which dramatically increases financial incentives for residential and non-residential solar projects (A.5060-C, passed Assembly).
- Sponsored legislation that provides the opportunity for electric customers, especially multi-dwellers, to invest in shared renewable energy facilities and see tangible economic benefits in their utility bills.
- Sponsored legislation to create a pilot program for municipalities in Westchester to pool together a large number of residents and solicit bids from energy service companies to supply their electricity and gas. The municipality can then obtain the best price for the electric and gas customers, saving them money on utility bills (A.7896-A).

# 5 ways to increase energy efficiency in your home

## 1. Use an Energy STAR-qualified cable box.

In standby mode, a digital cable box with a DVR consumes more energy than a TV, multifunction printer and laptop when turned off but still plugged in. Energy STAR-qualified boxes are on average 45% more efficient than conventional models.

## 2. Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.

Over its lifetime, each compact fluorescent (CFL) bulb will save you \$5 in energy costs. CFLs last longer and can save 75% more energy compared to incandescent bulbs.

## 3. Seal your windows and doors.

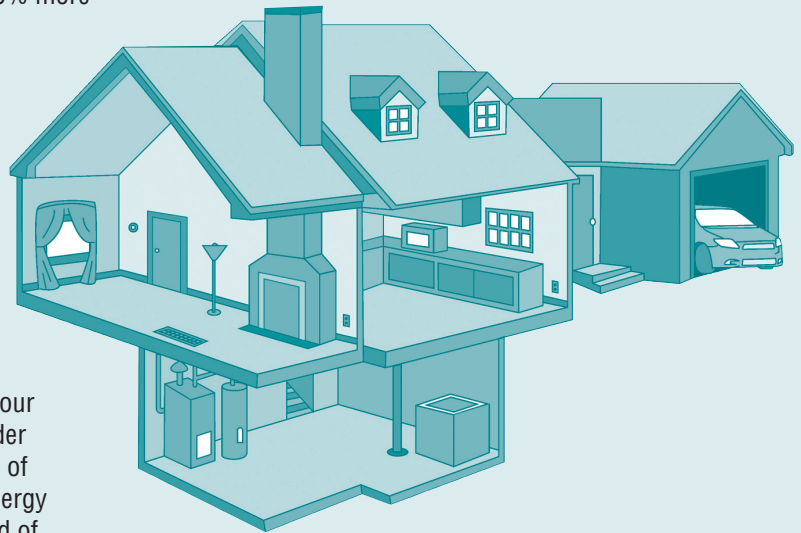
Use caulk and weather strips around windows and doors that leak air. Replacing windows with Energy STAR windows can save you \$20-95 each year in energy costs.

## 4. Set your water heater thermostat at 120 degrees or lower.

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the average household spends 12% of its energy bill running a water heater. Lowering your thermostat can save you \$36-61 annually. Consider switching to a tankless water heater to save 30% of energy use. Tankless water heaters waste less energy because they heat water as it's being used instead of keeping a whole tank hot.

## 5. Wash clothes in cold water.

Most of the energy consumed by washing machines goes to heating water, not powering the moving parts. Since there is no minimum temperature for optimal clothing cleaning, washing in cold water can save an average household \$30-40 annually in energy costs.



These facts were adapted from the Energy Conservation Quiz and Energy STAR, which can be found at <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/green-guide/quizzes/energy-conservation/> and [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov), respectively.



Assemblywoman Amy Paulin participated in the Legislative Energy Horizon Institute's Energy School in Richland, Washington in July. It was an intensive five-day program for state legislators that covered a wide range of topics and included lectures and fieldwork.