

# -10 TIPS FOR USING'ENERGY EFFICIENTLY

..... In Your Home Garden

#### **CONTROL YOUR CONTROLLER**

Save water and energy by reducing your landscape's watering schedule.

## **BE A LITTLE SHADY**

Shading the sides of your home with drought-tolerant trees can help reduce air conditioning costs and cool your yard up to 6 degrees!

### **GIVE YOUR MOWER A BREAK**

Use less energy and improve air quality by replacing thirsty turf with native plants and flowers that require less water.

## PLAN(T) IT OUT!

Map out water-smart landscape by designating play, work, and entertainment areas. Remove unused sprinkler lines and highlight areas with solar lights.

## TAKE YOUR LAWN TO NEW HEIGHTS

Raise your mower's cutting height during hot temperatures. Longer grass shades roots, reducing browning, weed growth, and water required to keep your grass healthy.

## **ELECTRIC OVER GAS**

Electric-powered lawn mowers are not only more energy efficient, but create less pollution and noise than gas-powered mowers.

## STAY SHARP!

Keep the cutting edges on your mower sharp for a clean cut that uses less energy. Also, dull blades fray grass which increases water loss due to evaporation.

## TAKE A WIND BREAK

Planting a windbreak of drought-tolerant grasses, shrubs, and trees protects your home from chilly winds, reducing heating costs!

## LET NATURE LEND A HAND

Introducing ladybugs and marigolds reduces the need for store bought pesticides that can create harmful runoff and take a lot of energy to produce.

## **START A COMPOST PILE**

Compost increases the soil's ability to retain water. By composting at home, you will also conserve the energy it takes to produce store bought brands.