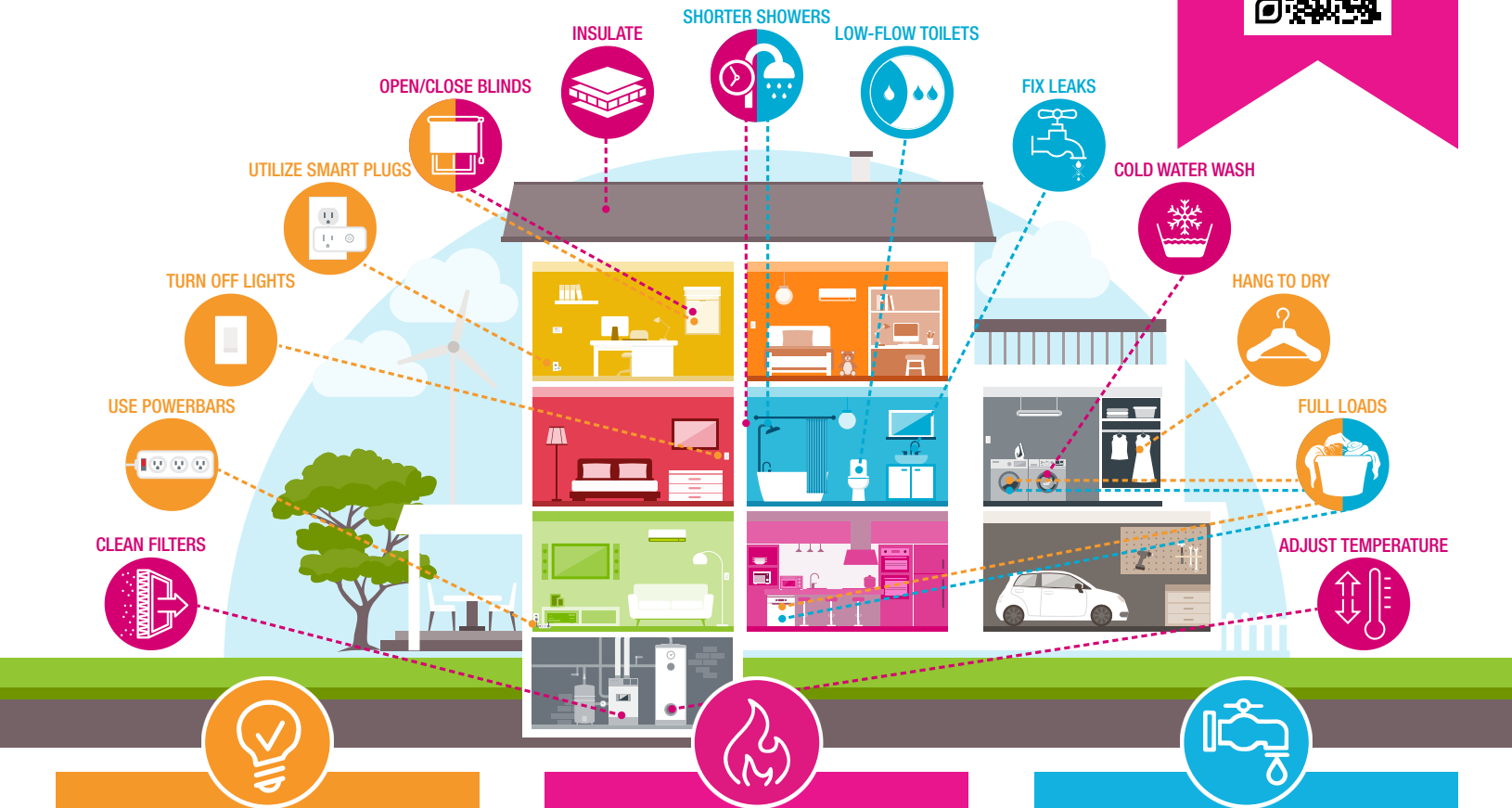


# TIPS TO LOWER UTILITY USAGE

Smart strategies to cut down your usage.

Learn more about the Government of Alberta's Affordable Advice for Life

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- Unplug electronics when not in use.
- Use power bars to reduce standby electricity.
- Turn off the dishwasher's heat-dry setting; use energy-saving modes.
- Use the smallest appliance necessary for cooking.
- Conduct a home energy audit.
- Replace old appliances with energy-efficient models.
- Place portable air conditioners in frequently used rooms and turn them off when not needed.
- Use timers for plugging in cars during the winter; block heaters typically only need to be plugged in for 3 hours.
- Set ceiling fans to rotate clockwise in winter and counterclockwise in summer.

- Open blinds and curtains during the day to let in natural heat from the sun.
- Use cold water for laundry.
- Seal windows, doors, and other openings.
- Improve insulation in walls and attics.
- Check for signs of heat loss, like icicles on the roofline.
- Use a programmable thermostat.
- Space heaters may increase electricity bills.
- Close doors to unused rooms.
- Avoid blocking heating vents or radiators to ensure proper airflow.
- Replace furnace filters regularly and schedule routine furnace maintenance.

- Fix leaks as soon as possible.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Collect rainwater for watering plants.
- Watch for leaky or left-on sprinklers and use timers.
- Wait until you have full loads of laundry or dishes before running the machines.
- Invest in low-flow faucets, showerheads, and toilets.
- Fill the sink to wash dishes instead of letting the water run.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways.
- Use a watering can instead of a hose for small garden areas.

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310-4UCA (4822) | 1-888-644-6608  
UCAhelps@gov.ab.ca | UCAhelps.alberta.ca

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