Use your fridge and freezer efficiently by filling them well and leaving as little empty space as possible.

# Lighting

- Make maximum use of natural light.
- Switch off the light immediately when you leave a room.
- Energy-saving bulbs are more economical, and LEDs are even more so. Energy-saving bulbs and LED-lamps are more expensive, but because of the low energy consumption you recoup the purchase in short time. LEDs use 85 percent less electricity than bulbs of similar strength. Moreover, the life span can be up to 50 times longer.
- Think about the Christmas lights too!

#### Air conditioner and fan

- Combine the use of air conditioning and fan to best spread the cooled air.
- Choose an inverter air conditioner. It is more expensive, but you will recoup the purchase in short time. An inverter air conditioner uses less electricity and it reaches the desired temperature four times faster than a conventional air conditioner.

#### Other devices

- It is advisable to iron as many garments as possible at once. An iron consumes the most electricity while heating up.
- Smooth floor surfaces are easy to sweep. Maybe a broom is preferable to the energy-guzzling vacuum cleaner?
- Your washing machine works more efficiently if you regularly clean the filter.
- A gas stove is more efficient and more energy saving than electric stove, ceramic or induction cookers.

# Tips around the house

- If you have outdoor lighting, preferably use LED-lamps. You can place a photocell on your outdoor lights so they switch automatically on at dusk and off again at sunrise.
- You save even more electricity with LED motion lamps that only switch on if someone gets near.
- If you purchase a pump for the swimming pool or the drip system, make a conscious choice and pay attention to the energy consumption.
- Electric garden tools use a lot of electricity. Do you always grab the leaf blower? Have you considered using the rake?

## **INSULATION**

Insulation not only protects against the cold. It is also very efficient in keeping heat out of the house. You can save considerably on the electricity costs for air conditioning and ventilation with insulation.

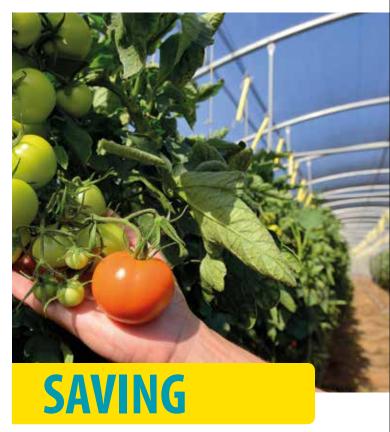
- Install wall and roof insulation at new buildings or renovations.
- You can place rubber strips under doors to avoid that the cool air of the air conditioner escapes. Also check the sealing of window frames and, if necessary, apply silicone sealant.
- · Consider putting double glazing.
- Heat-insulating glass, especially in larger doors and windows, keeps a lot of heat out.

#### WE ARE PLEASED TO BE OF SERVICE!

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Consume less water and electricity!



# **SAVING**

A few facts and tips to think back to occasionally: without spending a lot of money you can easily save on water and electricity.

In this brochure we give you a couple of tips.

# **SAVE WATER**

We often take water from our faucets for granted. So much so that our consumption quickly rises to 125 liters of drinking water per person a day. That is 45,624 liters per year, or an ample 45,6 m3 per year.

Did you know that showering one minute shorter each day saves about 5 m3 per year? You can save tens of dollars doing this. And did you know that the toilet accounts for about 30 percent of our total water consumption? With a water saving toilet flush button you use approximately 23 m3 less per year.

Besides saving you money, the responsible use of water is also good for the environment.

# Tips in the house

# **Toilet**

- Adjust the float in the toilet tank so that the tank does not fill up completely.
- Is it not possible to adjust the float? Then put two-liter bottles filled with water in the toilet tank (not on the side of the float). The tank will fill less up.
- Buy a water saving toilet flush button.
- Make sure that your toilet does not keep running,

because that can cost you a lot of money. Running water can quickly rise to 25 liters per hour; this adds up to 219 m3 water per year.

## Hygiene

- Use a shower timer. We often forget how long we shower. A shower timer makes you aware of this.
- Do not leave the water running while soaping and brushing teeth.
- Buy a flow restrictor for your faucets. This is a plastic ring that reduces the flow rate of the water.
- Purchase a water-saving shower head.

## Washing

- Do not fill your washer completely for only a small laundry.
   Many washing machines have a water-saving button.
   If yours doesn't have one, save laundry up and wash as much as possible at once.
- Turn on your dishwasher only when it is full.

# Other tips

- Replace leaky faucets; they waste on average 2,000 liters water per year.
- Check your water meter regularly. This way you quickly notice if there is water leaking somewhere.

# Tips around the house

- Do you use a hose to wash your car? Consider using buckets: it can save you three quarters of the water.
   A garden hose easily uses 150 liters of water; you can get the same job done with 4 buckets of water.
- If you prefer to spray your car clean, then use a pressure washer. A garden hose uses around 3,000 liters of water per hour, while a pressure washer uses 600 liters of water per hour. Also, a pressure washer works faster, which will save you around 15% of time and therefore water.
- Do not waste rainwater! You can collect rainwater in underground tanks and use it for your garden and possibly to top up the pool.

- Do you want to construct a swimming pool? Think for a moment about the size. Especially in dry periods the pool must be topped up regularly. Through evaporation the water level drops 1 cm per day.
- If you are giving drinking water to your plants, remember that you save most by using watering cans.
- Cover the soil around plants with leaves, wood chips or gravel. This way there will be less evaporation because the water is better retained.

## **SAVE ELECTRICITY**

By smart use of electronic devices, you can save considerably on your electricity bill. Think about washing a full load instead of a half load in your washing machine. Or the laundry dryer - is it really necessary in our sunny climate?

Did you know that switching devices off instead of keeping them on stand-by saves a whole lot of electricity? Think of televisions, computers, chargers, baby monitors or electric toothbrushes.

Handy to know as well: devices that need to heat up, like microwaves, rice cookers, irons and hairdryers, use a lot of electricity. And did you know that the vacuum cleaner is the largest electricity guzzler?

Many devices we can't and don't want to do without. But by using them consciously you can save tens of dollars.

# Tips in the house Refrigerator and freezer

- Make sure that your refrigerator and freezer are well closed. Regularly check the rubber around the fridge and freezer doors.
- Do not place your fridge and freezer in a warm place or near a heat source.
- Maintain a constant temperature of 4 to 6 degrees Celsius in your refrigerator.
- Defrost your freezer regularly.