

THE MPPD MINUTE



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EnergyWiseSM Tip: Energy Efficiency

By: Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

Today, there are many reasons why homeowners should consider energy efficiency, from environmental and financial benefits to potential improvements in mental and physical health. In fact, energy efficiency has become one of the biggest opportunities for prospective and current homeowners. Here are some additional reasons why:

Reduce utility bills: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) estimates that you can save anywhere from 5% to 30% on your utility bills with energy efficient options and home upgrades. Energy efficient appliances consume less energy throughout their service lives without sacrificing quality and are an excellent way to lower energy expenditures.

Return on investment: Energy efficient purchases are an investment with savings that add up over the service life of the product. These savings can offset the initial price premium on energy efficient appliances and offer a significant return when compared to conventional, non-efficient alternatives. Furthermore, that savings increases over time as energy prices tend to rise.

Protect the environment: Implementing energy efficiency is a great way to reduce your carbon footprint. Homes were responsible for 19% of national greenhouse gas emissions in 2016. Implementing home energy efficiency measures can significantly reduce a home's emissions contribution. According to the DOE, the typical household can reduce its energy use (and by extension its greenhouse gas emissions) by 25% to 30% percent by investing in energy efficiency opportunities.

Increase property value: In the housing market, energy efficient homes usually sell for a higher price than standard homes with comparable features. Every project that increases a home's energy efficiency adds a portion of its cost to the final selling price. Potential home buyers recognize that energy-efficient homes have reduced utility bills and fewer repair bills, too.

Enhance quality of life: Implementing energy efficient measures creates a home that will be warmer, drier and properly ventilated. This lowers the risk of illness and mold growth. Energy efficiency also prevents the buildup of indoor pollutants, a major concern in areas with high radon emissions.

Regardless of the reasons, your local utility, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, can help customers meet their energy efficiency goals. They may also provide EnergyWiseSM energy efficiency incentives to reduce the cost of improvements. Contact them or visit www.energywisenebraska.com for more information.



WAYS TO \$AVE

Save money and ease stress on the electric grid by doing activities that require lots of energy in late evening or at night.

NEW EMPLOYEE



Kameron Meixner was hired in May as an apprentice lineman. Kameron is a 2021 McCook High School graduate and a recent graduate from Northeast Community College with an Associates of Applied Science in Utility Line. As an apprentice lineman, Kameron will continue his education in the Power Delivery Program through Northwest Lineman College. This is a distance learning program combined with on-the-job training done at his own pace.