

# In October

## TASK OF THE MONTH

### Be heat wise

#### Reduce your heating bills

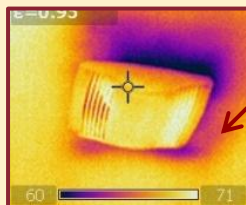
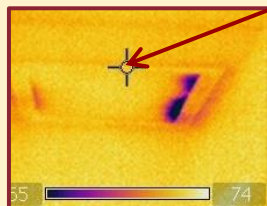
You assess your home to find ways to reduce waste and improve comfort, using the Department of Energy do-it-yourself home assessment:



<https://tinyurl.com/ykduubbx>

#### Have hard-to-find leaks?

Thermal cameras can show where air is leaking in or out, including around attic hatches, vents & fans:



Insert an inflatable draft stopper if you have a fireplace.

<https://www.batticdoor.com/product-tag/fireplace-plugs/>



Adding insulating cellular shades on windows makes a noticeable difference

#### Air leaks can be like leaving a window open all the time.

Fill gaps with caulk or expanding foam, or cover the with rigid insulation board.

#### Where to look for leaks?

- ☐ Around door and window frames.
- ☐ At electrical, gas service, cable TV and home phone line entrances.
- ☐ Along baseboards.
- ☐ Around wall or window air conditioners.
- ☐ Where dryer vents pass through exterior walls.
- ☐ Above and around attic hatches.
- ☐ Around vents and fans.
- ☐ Under fireplace dampers.
- ☐ Behind electrical outlets and switch plates on exterior walls.



Foam switch-plate and outlet inserts are inexpensive, effective and easy to install.

<https://tinyurl.com/mr5yze98>



#### Done everything you can? Try gradually lowering your thermostat when home

Start with a 1°F change, take time to adjust, then try a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree lower. And set it even lower when sleeping.



**Green Sanctuary Task Force  
on Global Climate Change**

