

# SAVING ENERGY – THE RIGHT WAY!



## Dear tenants,

Since last fall, energy prices, in particular for natural gas, have increased dramatically. Oil, coal and electricity have also become significantly more expensive. Currently, there is no reason to expect the situation in the energy market to change, so the only option for lowering costs is to reduce consumption.

We would like to give you some tips how you can make small energy-saving changes in your daily lives, to help compensate for the increased costs and at the same time protect the environment.

## Electricity

- Switch off your electronic devices completely if possible. Don't leave them in standby mode. An additional switch in the outlet or a switchable power strip can help.
- Set your refrigerator to about 7°C.
- Refrigerator: Don't leave the door open, and always close it quickly.
- Refrigerator: Thaw frozen foods in the refrigerator.
- Refrigerator: Be sure to maintain enough distance between the appliance and the wall to allow heat to be dissipated.
- Freezer: Defrost regularly: A 1 cm layer of ice doubles the electricity consumption of the freezer compartment.
- Washer: Be sure to run the machine when it is full, not half full.
- If possible, do your washing on sunny days to take advantage of solar energy and to be able to dry it more easily.
- Washer: Use the energy saving programme (eco programme) / reduced washing temperature / no pre-wash.
- Dishwasher: Use the energy saving programme (eco programme) / reduced washing temperature / no pre-wash.
- Dishwasher: Be sure to run the machine when it is full, not half full.
- Lighting: Replace halogen lamps with LEDs.
- Lighting: Turn off lights when you are not in the room.
- Avoid using fans in the summer and space heaters in winter.
- Oven: Bake with the convection function rather than static upper and lower heat to reduce the baking temperature.
- Stove: Cover cooking pots with lids to prevent heat from escaping.
- Electric kettle: Heat only as much water as you need.
- Use the electric kettle to boil water for cooking.
- Use household appliances only as you need them: iron only the necessary items of clothing, use the vacuum selectively.
- When buying new appliances be sure to choose ones with a very good energy efficiency rating.

## Heating

Every radiator is equipped with a thermostat. The right settings will help you save a lot of energy during the colder months:

- Heat moderately!
- The numbers on the thermostats mean:

*	1	2	3	4	5
6°C	12°C	16°C	20°C	24°C	28°C

- One degree reduction in room temperature saves about 6 percent of your heating energy.
- Do not heat unused rooms above 16 degrees and close the doors to those rooms.
- Air your apartment briefly and regularly by opening your windows wide and turning down the thermostat while you do.
- Do not air out by leaving your windows tilted, this loses a lot of heat and not much air is exchanged.
- Bleed and clean your radiators. It makes them more effective.
- Do not hang items on your radiators or place anything in front of them. This also helps them work more effectively.
- Turn down your thermostats before longer absences.
- Wear seasonal clothing in your apartment.
- Reduce the humidity in your rooms, it saves heating energy.
- At night, close the curtains, roll shutters and blinds on your windows. This lets less heat escape to the outside through the windows.
- Open curtains during the day to take advantage of the sun's heat.
- If possible, dry your laundry outside.

## Hot water

The water you use to shower, bathe or wash dishes must be heated, and this uses lots of energy. Here's how you can save:

- Reduce your hot water consumption by taking shorter showers (e. g. only four minutes rather than ten). Turn off the water while you lather up.
- Don't take very hot showers.
- Do not take baths. One bath with 140 litres uses as much water as five showers with a water-saving shower head of five minutes each.
- Wash your hands with cold water.
- Don't wash dishes under running warm water.
- Shut off the water while you brush your teeth.
- Never let warm water run unused.

**Tip:** You can monitor the consumption of all of your radiators and hot water taps directly at the individual digital consumption meters. This shows you where you are using the most energy so you can regulate your consumption accordingly.

## CHECK YOUR CONSUMPTION



Since the beginning of this year, SAGA has been required to provide you with a monthly consumption report. To view your report, use our tenant portal **meineSAGA**.

Here you can check your consumption data for heating and hot water every month and check them against comparative values. That way you can see how much energy you saved month by month. Simply register at [www.meine.saga.hamburg](http://www.meine.saga.hamburg)