

## Extension Tip of the Week

September 29, 2008

The fall season is a good time to seal cracks, add insulation and improve windows and doors. When the weather turns cold, homes leak air and heat through cracks and around doors and windows. They also conduct heat through doors, windows, foundations and ceilings.

Homeowners can take a number of steps to reduce energy losses and save on utility bills:

- Caulk, weather strip and glaze (place putty) around windows and glass panes.
- Improve windows and doors by installing storm windows and drapes or tightly-fitted shades.
- Control moisture levels by adequately ventilating unheated attics.
- Insulate attics with loose-fill or blanket insulation.
- Insulate exterior walls with loose fill insulation.
- Insulate basement walls, crawl spaces and slab foundations according to foundation type.

For more energy savings ideas in your home, go to:

[www.extension.iastate.edu/homefamily/housing/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/homefamily/housing/)  
<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/index.html>

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