

# The Calgary Sun

## A PENNY SAVED IS A PENNY EARNED

Sunday, April 30, 2006  
Page: H12  
Section: Homes

A myriad of products exist to save us time. Shaving a few minutes here and there can translate into saving money when you consider the potential to reduce your energy consumption.

So what's the easiest way to cut back on electricity usage?

For a start, turn off lights, the television, VCR, stereo, computer and electronic games when not in use.

"Consider a timer or motion sensor to help you save energy and shave some costs off your bill," says Mark Antonuk, with ATCO EnergySense.

There are a number of different types to choose from:

Spring-wound timers save energy by automatically shutting off equipment.

They use no electricity, are usually used to control lights, whirlpools, fans and heaters that are costly to operate if left on for extended periods.

Portable timers plug directly into an electrical outlet and are easily programmable.

Self-programming light timers give your home a lived-in appearance when you are away while reducing energy use.

They memorize the sequence of turning lights on and off and replay it.

Motion-sensing wall switches automatically turn lights on when you enter a room and shut lights off when you leave.

They are popular for high-traffic areas where lights may be left on unnecessarily and are easily installed by replacing existing wall switches.

Outdoor motion sensors operate similarly and can be combined with photocell, turning lights on at dusk and off at dawn.

This message is brought to you by ATCO. For information, visit [www.ATCOgas.com](http://www.ATCOgas.com)

© 2006 Sun Media Corporation. All rights reserved.