

# Ways to Save: In Your Home

Whether you rent or own your home, we all have bills to pay. Lots of bills, it seems.

We can help.

Our "Ways to Save" project provides a range of cost-saving tips on many of the common expenses you face every day, like utility bills and food costs. Find advice and information in our videos, classes, projects, blog posts and more, including this fact sheet, which shares some easy ways to cut costs in your home.

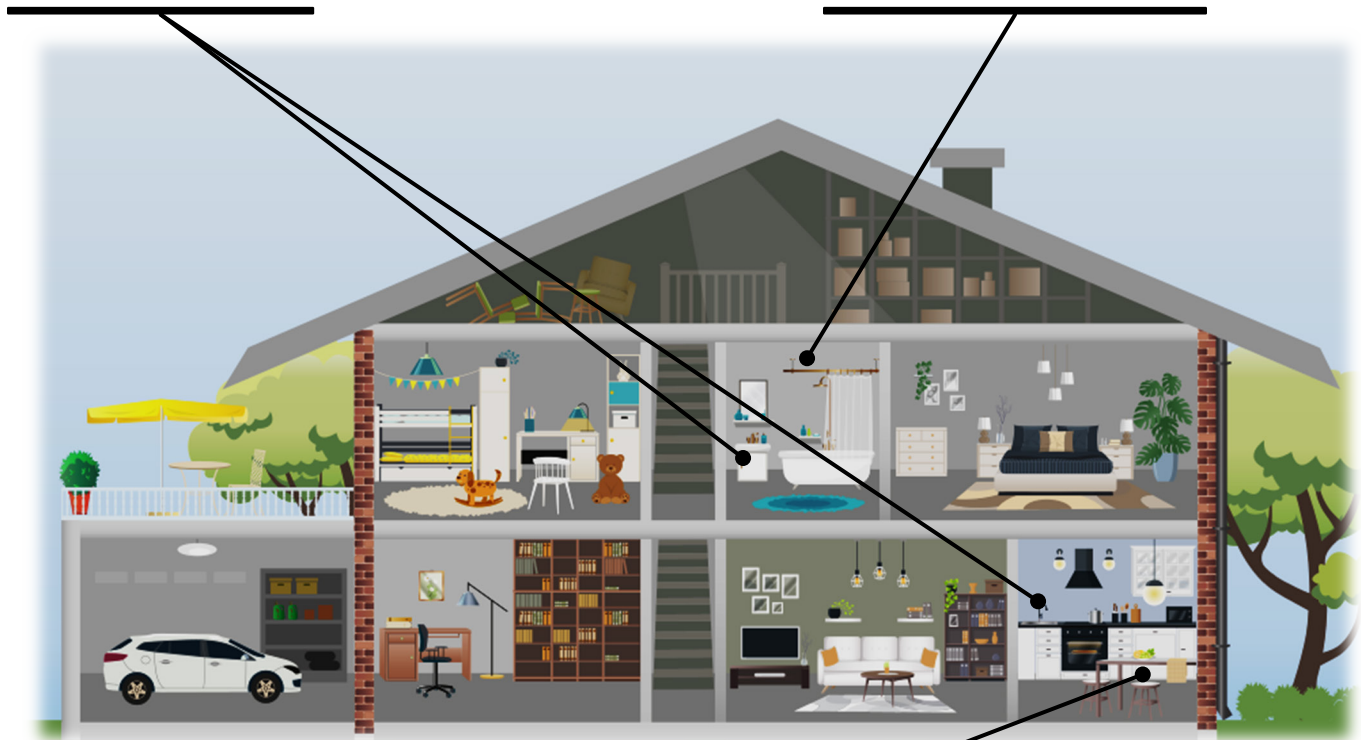
## Save... on Water

### Install a faucet aerator

If you run a faucet just five minutes a day, adding a faucet aerator can save you more than 1,800 gallons of water each year. Learn how in our short video:  
[youtu.be/WFekDBMkog0](https://youtu.be/WFekDBMkog0).

### Fix toilet leaks

A leaking toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water per day, enough to fill a home swimming pool in six months. Stop the leaks to save water and money, with our [youtu.be/df74Dby5-rQ](https://youtu.be/df74Dby5-rQ) short video and/or sign up for a "Looking for Leaks" class at [tiny.cc/ufsaraext\\_leaks](https://tiny.cc/ufsaraext_leaks).



*Credit: Pixabay.com*

## Save... on Food

### Smart grocery shopping

Grocery costs can easily and quickly soar. But, you have the power to rein in those costs with some simple steps, including:

- Make a food budget, and stick to it.
- Build a shopping list in advance. Check your pantry and refrigerator to see what you need.
- Plan your meals for the week, and purchase only what you need.
- Never shop hungry. This will help keep you from impulse buying.
- Try store brands, which often are the same or similar products/ingredients at lower costs.
- Make a next-day lunch of your leftovers.

Find more money-saving tips at the grocery store at [ChooseMyPlate.gov](https://ChooseMyPlate.gov).

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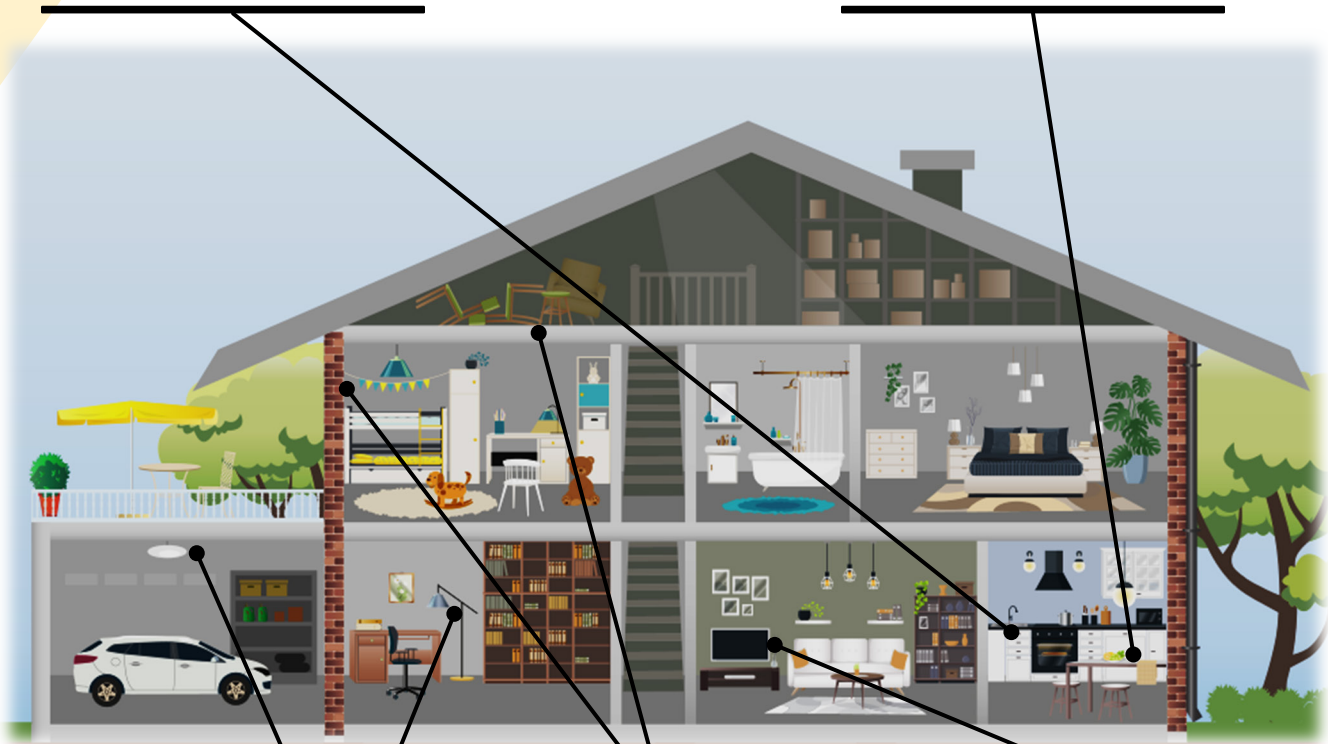
## Save... on Food Waste

### Cut the FOG

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) from foods can create huge problems in our pipes. Poured down the drain, they can lead to clogs and costly repairs. Most FOG-related sewer blockages come from homes. Instead, collect and reuse FOG in cooking, as a base for suet blocks for birds, or more. If disposing, try freezing FOG as a large block, and then add it to your trash. Learn more: [tiny.cc/ufsaraxt\\_fogblog](http://tiny.cc/ufsaraxt_fogblog).

### Composting

Don't trash your food waste. Compost it. That cuts landfill waste and creates nutrient-rich fertilizer for your potted plants, garden or lawn. Save more by making compost bins from items you already have, like turning a storage container into a worm composting system. Learn more in any of our composting classes at [eventbrite.com/cc/119019](http://eventbrite.com/cc/119019) or visit our composting webpages at [sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu/compost](http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu/compost).



*Credit: Pixabay.com*

## Save... on Power

### Use energy-saving lights

Replacing standard lightbulbs with longer-lasting, higher-efficiency LED bulbs can save up to \$15 per bulb per year.

### Seal air leaks and gaps

Use caulk, tape, or other insulation to stop leaks, and save up to \$180 a year.

### Stop energy drains

Electronics and appliances draw 75 percent of their energy while "off." Unplug or use "smart" power strips to save unnecessary draw.

## Learn more "Ways to Save"

- Follow us on social media for the latest tips:  
Facebook.com/ufsarasotaext | Instagram.com/ufsarasotaextension | Twitter.com/ufsarasotaext
- Watch our "Ways to Save" YouTube playlist: [tiny.cc/ufsaraxt\\_waystosavevideo](http://tiny.cc/ufsaraxt_waystosavevideo)
- Attend our Ways to Save" classes and events: [eventbrite.com/cc/1380639](http://eventbrite.com/cc/1380639)
- Read our savings-related blog posts:
  - "Ways to Save" series: [blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/tag/waystosave](http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/tag/waystosave)
  - General saving information: [blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/tag/save](http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/tag/save)

Find general savings information at our websites: [sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota](http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota) and [scgov.net/extension](http://scgov.net/extension)

**Questions?** [sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota](http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota) | [sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu) | **941.861.5000**