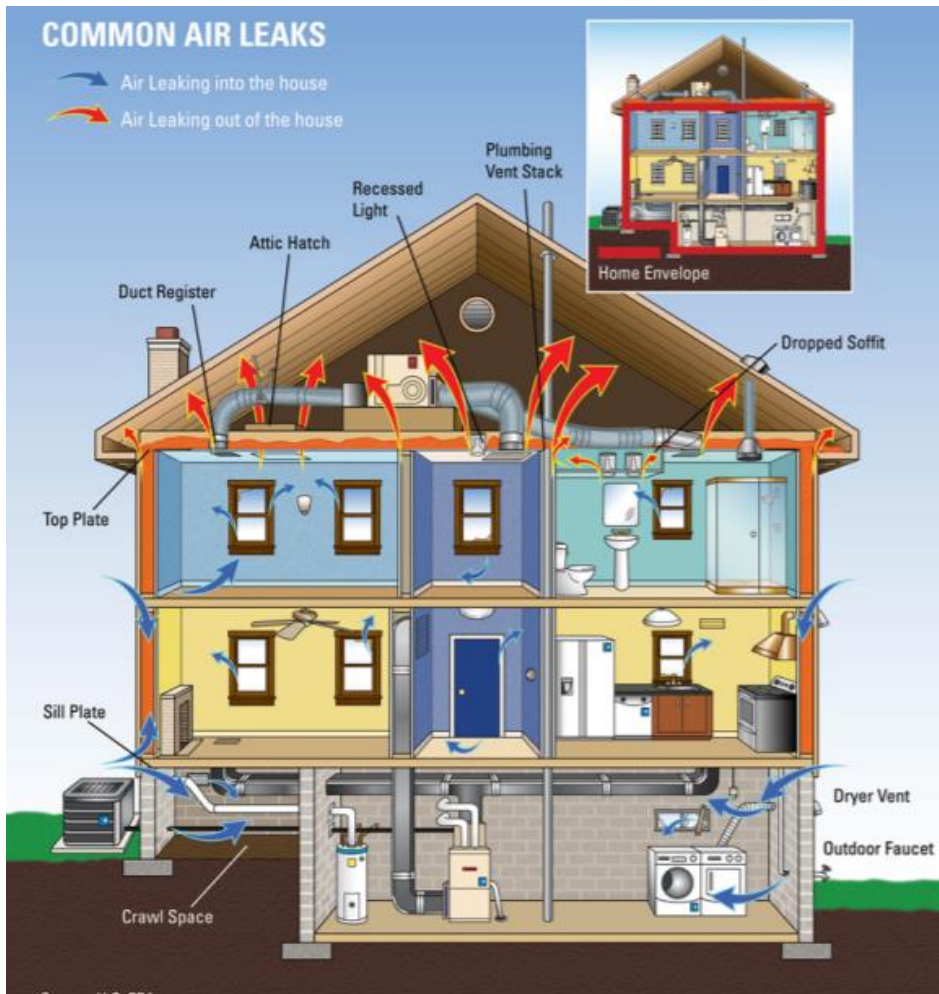




## ~~HOLED~~ THE HEAT IN SEPTEMBER ENERGY ACTION SHEET

This month's projected annual savings: 2.5% of energy use

This month, find and plug the leaks in the insulated part of your home. Sealing air leaks is an easy way to steeply reduce energy use. **For every \$1000 an average household spends on heating and cooling, 15% to 25% is wasted due to air leaks.** If you rent your home, you could offer to do the work if your landlord will pay for the supplies.



References available upon request from [CreationCarePartners@gmail.com](mailto:CreationCarePartners@gmail.com). This info sheet employs the Task of the Month concept developed by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for Earth Care, an affiliate of Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light.

## HOW TO FIND AND PLUG AIR LEAKS

**Check from inside...** On a windy day or after turning on your exhaust fans, [use a lit candle or smoke from a stick of incense](#). Check around doors, windows, baseboard heaters and AC units; where walls meet floors or ceilings; where pipes, vents, fans and any type of line enters the crawlspace or rooms; and where you see dark spots.

**...and from outside.** Walk around the outside of your home. Look for holes, seams, and cracks, especially around windows; AC units; and pipes, vents, fans, and electrical, gas, phone, cable and other lines enter the building. Mark gaps with chalk.

THE PROBLEM	THE SOLUTION
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GAPS</b> <b>(48% of leaks)</b></p> <p>Less than ¼ inch wide</p> <p>More than ¼ inch wide and behind baseboard heaters</p>	<p><a href="#">Caulk with a caulking gun and silicone or acrylic-silicone blend caulk.</a></p> <p>Wide gaps and gaps behind baseboard heaters require spray foam - which is messy. Unless you have experience with it or the result won't be visible, get help.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LEAKY WINDOWS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND DOORS</b> <b>(21% of leaks)</b></p> <p>The bottom</p> <p>The rest</p>	<p><a href="#">Install weather stripping and rope caulk, a plastic barrier and / or a simple indoor shutter.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Install a door sweep.</a> Bring the old sweep to the store to get a similar replacement. Or hire a professional to replace it for you.</p> <p><a href="#">Install weather stripping.</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FIREPLACE</b> <b>(14% of leaks)</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Make a chimney plug</a> using a <b>garbage bag</b> and <b>insulation</b> or <a href="#">buy one</a>.</p>

The following utility companies provide free energy assessments:

Centerpoint / Vectren: Must qualify. [Click](#) or call (866) 240-8476

Duke: [Click](#) or call (844) 346-4366

IPL (AES): [Click](#) or call (866) 908-4915

I&M: Must qualify. [Click](#) or call (855) 231-5274

NIPSCO: [Click](#) or call (800) 721-738



References available upon request from [CreationCarePartners@gmail.com](mailto:CreationCarePartners@gmail.com).