

## Cost saving tips

Buy seasonal produce - it's cheaper and less likely to be impacted by supply disruption.

Avoid over pruning trees, shrubs and plants as they can provide food sources and shelter for wildlife. Mulch any pruned material and place this around your plants.

Use a cold water wash cycle when you wash clothes. Making this change could save you around \$50 per year.

Save energy by switching things off at the wall. Standby still uses power!

Cut down on long showers to save money. A 15-minute shower costs about \$1, while a 5-minute shower costs about 33 cents.



See booklet  
five

## Other options

Install a solar hot water system, it could save up to \$500 each year. This is a better option if you live in a sunny spot.

If you can afford, buy an electric vehicle or solar panels to reduce electricity and fuel costs.

Toughened double glazing can help with keeping your home warm in winter, reducing heat loss by up to 80%!

If you are looking into buying new property, always request a Land Information Memorandum (LIM). This should tell you all the information about potential hazards on this property, including whether the property is at risk of flooding.

Light-coloured roofs can reflect the sun's heat and keep your homes cooler. 'Green' or planted roofs can lower roof temperatures and also absorb more water during heavy rain events.

### Sources:

[homefit.org.nz](http://homefit.org.nz)  
[genless.govt.nz](http://genless.govt.nz)

**For more information about climate change, check the Waikato District Council website.**

## INCREASE YOUR HOME'S CLIMATE RESILIENCE

## ME WHAKAKAHA TO WHARE KAINGA



### In this booklet:

- Cost saving tips
- Small changes
- With \$100 you could...
- With \$1000 you could...
- Other options

Climate resilience is our ability to prepare for a changing climate, and recover from disruptive events.

## Small changes

Buy some draft stoppers for your doors and thermal lined curtains.

Let your lawn go brown in summer and save water - it will bounce back!

Give your home a checkup with a healthy home detection kit from one of our libraries. You can also buy your own moisture meter and thermal leak detector.

Don't forget hot water bottles and wheat bags. It's more efficient to heat your body than your whole house!

Check your electricity provider prices. You can get cheaper electricity at off-peak times if you're on the right kind of power plan. You can check yours at [powerswitch.org.nz](https://powerswitch.org.nz).

Clean your gutters and check your stormdrains, to avoid clogging up during the next weather event.

If you have a smart washing machine, you can programme it to turn on when electricity rates are cheaper.

Plant hardy plant species and reduce concrete surfaces. Permeable surfaces can reduce risk of flooding.

## With \$100 you could...

Plant your garden with native plants. It will help to absorb more water in the event of heavy rainfall.

Add a black-out or thermal insulation fabric to the back of your curtains.

Buy an outdoor clothesline, and install it in a sunny spot.

Switch to LED bulbs - they use up to 85% less electricity than traditional.

Put together an emergency grab bag for you and your whaanau or housemates.

Install gutter guards on your home.



## With \$1000 you could...

- Buy an energy efficient heat pump - the lowest impact way to heat your home.
- When it comes to insulation, start with your ceilings to make sure that heat can't escape.
- You might be eligible for a grant through the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme (you will need to contribute 10-20% of costs).
- Invest in a rainwater capture and storage system for your home.
- Buy shutters and awnings for your windows. These can help reduce your exposure to direct sun during the summer months.
- Install a smart thermostat in your home. This can connect to your smartphone and provide information on indoor humidity, risk of water leaks or flooding, pipes freezing or fire hazards.
- Install a larger gutter system on your home with metal guards to increase your resilience during a deluge.
- Buying second hand building materials for building is sometimes cheaper and helps reduce emissions.