

THE SMART HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO SAVING MONEY ON PLUMBING & HVAC



AMERICAN ROOTS
PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR

Owning a home in Southern Utah comes with its own unique challenges—blazing summers, chilly winters, and hard water that can wreak havoc on your plumbing and HVAC systems. But with the right knowledge, you can avoid costly repairs, reduce your utility bills, and keep your home running smoothly year-round.

At **American Roots Plumbing**, we believe in empowering homeowners with the right tools and information. In this guide, we'll share expert insights on how to save money, prevent breakdowns, and extend the life of your plumbing and HVAC systems—all while keeping your home comfortable and efficient.

SECTION 1: PLUMBING SAVINGS

1. Fix Leaks Immediately

In our dry desert climate, water is precious, and a small leak can waste thousands of gallons per year—hitting both your wallet and our local water supply.

✅ **Solution:** Regularly check under sinks, around toilets, and near your water heater for leaks. If you spot one, don't wait—fix it fast or call us before it gets worse.

💧 **Southern Utah Fact:** Because of our extreme temperature swings, pipes expand and contract more than in milder climates, leading to more leaks over time. Stay ahead of the problem by checking your plumbing every season.

2. Upgrade to Water-Efficient Fixtures

Southern Utah water rates are rising, and older plumbing fixtures waste thousands of gallons every year. Newer, water-efficient models use half the water without sacrificing performance.

✔ **Solution:** Consider installing:

- ✔ Low-flow showerheads – Save 2,700 gallons per year.
- ✔ High-efficiency toilets – Cut water use by up to 13,000 gallons annually.
- ✔ Aerated faucets – Reduce water flow while keeping strong water pressure.

💧 **Southern Utah Tip:** If you're on a well or septic system, upgrading to high-efficiency fixtures can extend the life of your system and prevent costly maintenance.

3. Be Smart About Hot Water Usage

Your water heater works overtime in our area because mineral-heavy hard water causes sediment buildup, making it less efficient over time. This leads to higher energy bills and shorter appliance lifespans.

✔ **Solution:**

- ✔ Lower your water heater temperature to 120°F – This balances comfort and efficiency.
- ✔ Flush your water heater every 6 months to remove hard water sediment.
- ✔ Wrap your water heater in an insulation blanket to reduce heat loss.

💧 **Southern Utah Tip:** Because our high calcium content water creates extra buildup, tankless water heaters can be a great investment to avoid costly maintenance down the road.

4. Use Your Dishwasher & Washing Machine Wisely

Handwashing dishes uses way more water than your dishwasher. The same goes for laundry—older washers can waste 20+ gallons per load.

✔ **Solution:**

- ✔ Run full loads only to maximize efficiency.
- ✔ Use cold water for laundry to cut energy use.
- ✔ Upgrade to Energy Star appliances for long-term savings.

💧 **Southern Utah Tip:** Many local utility companies offer rebates for upgrading to water-efficient appliances. Check with your provider to save even more!

SECTION 2: HVAC SAVINGS

5. Change Your Air Filters Regularly

Southern Utah's desert dust and pollen can clog up air filters fast, making your HVAC system work twice as hard. Dirty filters also lower air quality and drive up energy bills.

✅ **Solution:** Replace your air filter every 1–3 months (or more often if you have pets or allergies). This simple habit can cut your energy bill by up to 15%.

🔥 **Southern Utah Tip:** If you have allergies, consider high-efficiency HEPA filters to reduce dust, pollen, and wildfire smoke particles in your home.

6. Program Your Thermostat

If you're still adjusting your thermostat manually, you're probably spending way more than necessary on heating and cooling.

✅ **Solution:** Upgrade to a smart thermostat or program your existing one to:

- ✓ 78°F in summer, 68°F in winter for max efficiency.
- ✓ Turn down heat/cooling while you're away to save energy.
- ✓ Adjust temperatures gradually to prevent system overwork.

🔥 **Southern Utah Tip:** Homes with large windows can heat up fast in summer. Use thermal curtains or solar shades to keep cool air in and cut down AC costs.

7. Keep Your Vents and Ducts Clean

Blocked or dirty vents make your HVAC system work harder, shortening its lifespan and increasing your bill.

✅ **Solution:**

- ✓ Keep all vents open and unblocked for even airflow.
- ✓ Vacuum vents regularly to prevent dust buildup.
- ✓ Have air ducts inspected and cleaned every few years for efficiency.

🔥 **Southern Utah Tip:** If you live near red rock areas, your air ducts may get dustier than usual—consider cleaning them more frequently to maintain air quality.

8. Seal Drafts and Insulate Properly

Southern Utah homes lose tons of energy through small air leaks around doors, windows, and attics.

✅ **Solution:**

- ✓ Seal drafty windows and doors with weather stripping.

- ✓ Insulate your attic to prevent heat loss in winter.
- ✓ Use blackout curtains to keep your home cooler in summer.

🔥 **Southern Utah Tip:** Many older homes in the area weren't built with high insulation standards—adding attic insulation can make a huge difference in keeping your home comfortable year-round.

BONUS: THE SOUTHERN UTAH HOME EFFICIENCY CHECKLIST

- Check for leaks** under sinks and near toilets every month.
 - Flush your water heater** every 6 months to prevent hard water buildup.
 - Replace HVAC filters** every 1–3 months to cut down dust and allergens.
 - Adjust your thermostat** for maximum energy savings.
 - Upgrade to water-efficient fixtures** to lower your water bill.
 - Run full loads** in your dishwasher and washing machine.
 - Seal drafty doors and windows** to keep your home energy-efficient.
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NEED A PRO? AMERICAN ROOTS PLUMBING IS HERE TO HELP!

Even with the best maintenance, things eventually break down. When they do, you need a local expert who won't upsell you or cut corners.

At **American Roots Plumbing**, we're Southern Utah's trusted plumbing and HVAC team—offering honest, high-quality service with no gimmicks. Whether it's a small repair, a system upgrade, or an emergency, we've got you covered.

Call Us Today at [\(435\) 767-2169](tel:4357672169)

Learn More at www.AmericanRootsUtah.com