Lighting

Best Practices for Energy Efficiency

Front of the House Lighting

Main Overhead Lighting

- **Fluorescent Lighting:**
  Upgrade to modern, higher efficiency lamps and ballasts. Linear fluorescent lighting has been used for overhead lighting for many years as an efficient replacement for incandescent bulbs. Recent improvements (from T12 lamps to T8 or T5 lamps) can provide a further 40% improvement in energy efficiency for the same light output.

- **Recessed Can Fixtures:**
  Install CFLs or LEDs. Can fixtures are a useful way to provide light without the fixture being seen, but do not light as wide of an area as overhead fluorescents. For can fixtures, CFLs with electronic balasts can produce light without any flicker or strobie, and will decrease energy consumption by 75%. However, it is important when mixing CFL and incandescent fixtures to carefully match the colors of these different lights. LEDs will be especially useful if dimming is desired.

- **Pendant Lighting:**
  Install CFL or LED lamps in all pendant lighting. Typically used over dining tables, where incandescent bulbs are inefficient and generate waste heat. They can be replaced by CFL or carefully chosen LED.

- **Chandeliers:**
  Install LEDs and CFLs where possible. Chandeliers can be used to provide decoration or ambient lighting: in both uses, it is important that bulbs be attractive. In addition, bulbs could be dimmable and should be easily swapped when they burn out. CFLs with electronic ballast can be dimmable but may not be attractive, while LEDs will last longest but may not provide useful ambient light. Either option is more efficient that incandescent bulbs.