Reducing Monthly Energy Bills with Replacement Windows by Nancy Ferdinand

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Today's economic outlook forces everyone to tighten their belts, particularly with energy consumption. According to a report in USA TODAY, the average residential electric monthly bill is a record-breaking $1,419 since 2010, adding about $300 to what households usually pay. Heating, lighting, and air conditioning systems account for nearly three-quarters of energy consumption.

The average home needs approximately 3,000 to 5,000 watts for basic household needs like lighting, cooking, pumping water, and refrigerating food. However, many homeowners have no idea they could still shave off a few dollars from their monthly bills. What sorcery can accomplish this? There's no need to look far as the answer is right in front: your windows.

ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Department of Energy, estimates that homeowners can save up to $27 a year by replacing their old windows. In fact, you can make significant savings depending on the number of windows you replace and the area you live in. But with several types of windows out in the market, how do you choose the most energy-efficient?

Windows are not one and the same; some are designed to allow more daylight, while others provide good ventilation. The key is to choose something that offers a bit of both. In addition, you must replace every old window at home because they allow heat to seep through, making room temperatures unbearably warmer.

Homes in Madison, Wisconsin can benefit a lot from window replacement projects. The city, along with the rest of the state, has a humid continental climate with winter temperatures that can go well below freezing. By choosing the type of energy-efficient replacement windows Madison residents want, you can fend off winter chills while keeping your home warm. Get in touch with contractors today and ask for professional insights on energy-efficient windows.

The only setback of replacement windows Madison WI homes have is the cost. A 2004 research by Shanon Peterson Wasielewski states that new windows can cost anywhere between $150 and $1,000 per window, excluding labor. If the price tag can leave a huge dent in your wallet, opt for alternatives like window insulation, which can be as simple as covering windows with plastic.

With the nation still reeling from the recent global economic crisis, homeowners are advised to be wise and frugal. Replacement windows Wisconsin contractors provide can help jumpstart your energy-saving crusade. Log on to CALFinder.com for a list of window replacement ideas.

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