

September 2020 | Oregon

## A new home with built-in savings



**EPS™, the energy performance scoring system from our partner Energy Trust of Oregon, can help you find a home that delivers year-round comfort and lower monthly energy costs.** EPS homes typically include high performance windows and insulation, energy saving appliances, efficient heating and more. To learn more about EPS homes, visit [energytrust.org/eps](http://energytrust.org/eps) or call (866) 368-7878.



## At home with Lisa: stories of an old house becoming more energy efficient

**Lisa, an Avista customer, bought her 1910 house because she loved the old-world character, some of which doesn't make her house very energy efficient.** Lisa is sharing her experience on taking some simple do-it-yourself improvements to inspire others to do the same.

I was looking through Avista's Energy Guide this week and I learned that dryers use considerably more energy than washing machines.

I have a regular-sized dryer that isn't optimized to use less energy. According to the Energy Guide, that means my dryer uses about 75 kilowatt hours a month, adding about \$7.51 to my energy bill. In my old house it's hard to keep warm in the winter and cool in the summer, so any chance I get to shave off my electricity usage is a win.

Since the weather's been warm and sunny, I thought I'd try drying my laundry the old-fashioned way. I got a drying rack. Prices for these start around \$20.

In the last couple of years, I've also seen dryer balls advertised online. These can be made of wool or plastic or other materials.

I looked them up: they work by bouncing around in your dryer to break up large clumps of wet clothes or towels. This puts air between the garments resulting in a quicker drying time.

The added benefit of dryer balls is they soften fabrics as they rub against them, meaning no need for dryer sheets. Best of all, they can last for about 1,000 trips through the dryer.

There are some very cute dryer balls online, in the shape of little hedgehogs or penguins, but I chose some plain wool balls. Prices seem to range from \$6 and up.

**Continued on other side**



Continued from other side

## At home with Lisa:

I tested out both of these methods recently. I threw a large load of towels into the wash. When they were done, I took most of them and put them in the dryer with the woolen balls. Two of them I hung on my new dryer rack outside.

The balls worked as advertised. My towels were perfectly dry and soft about 30 minutes later, much sooner than they would have been without the balls.

The rack worked great, too. Yes, it took longer than the dryer to get my towels dry and they weren't as soft as the ones in the dryer, but how much energy did I use getting them dry? Not even a smidge, just as the Energy Guide said, "sunshine is free."

You'll find Lisa's stories, every Tuesday morning, on [myavista.com/connect](http://myavista.com/connect).

## When's the last time you replaced your furnace filter?

**Regularly changing your furnace filter can greatly improve the efficiency and extend the life of your furnace. But it's a task most of us tend to forget.**

We have a great solution to help you remember to change your furnace filter, even if you've got this down like clockwork and you just want the convenience of doorstep delivery.

Join our furnace filter program and we'll send you email reminders every three months. If desired, you can also choose to receive money-saving manufacturer's coupons, or even have new filters conveniently delivered to your door.

There are many great reasons to replace the air filter in your furnace, including creating better operation and extending the life of your furnace, as well as the benefits of reduced energy use and cleaner indoor air quality.

Never forget that filter again. Sign up today at [myavista.com/changemyfilter](http://myavista.com/changemyfilter).

## Recognizing a natural gas leak



We, at Avista, want to keep you, your family and neighbors safe around natural gas. That's why we created some useful and informational safety videos. You can find these at [myavista.com/safetyvideos](http://myavista.com/safetyvideos).

And remember, if you have any questions about safety, please call us at 800-227-9187.

## Connect With Us

Mailing Address: 1411 E. Mission, PO Box 3727, Spokane, WA 99220-3727

Toll-Free: (800) 227-9187 | Web Site: [myavista.com](http://myavista.com)

Email: [ask@myavista.com](mailto:ask@myavista.com)

426i AVA

© Copyright 2020 Avista Corporation

