

# SIMPLE WAYS TO SAVE MONEY

## *Forward*

*This is a quick and easy reference guide for finding ways to save money. I know lives are very busy so, for that reason, I have purposefully written this tips booklet in a very simple format for your convenience.*

*I hope you find the presented ideas useful.*

*Thank you for accepting this ebook and please feel free to pass it on to friends and family.*

*Shanna Beaman*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Ways to Lower Your Home Monthly Expenses</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Kitchen</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Laundry Room</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Heating your Home</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Cooling your Home</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Bathroom</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Throughout the Home</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Outside</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Optional Services</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>Plan and Save While Shopping</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>Ways to Save on Transportation</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>Banking and Insurance</i>	<i>Page 12</i>
<i>Miscellaneous Personal Savings</i>	<i>Page 13</i>

<i>Ways to Prepare for Unknown Circumstances</i>	<i>Page 15</i>
<i>Have a Savings Account</i>	<i>Page 16</i>
<i>Ways to Save Your Money</i>	<i>Page 17</i>
<i>Ways to Make Money</i>	<i>Page 18</i>
<i>Set Life Changing Goals</i>	<i>Page 19</i>

## WAYS TO LOWER YOUR HOME MONTHLY EXPENSES

### Kitchen

- *Set your dishwasher to air dry instead of using the dry cycle*
- *Only wash full loads of dishes*
- *Keep the refrigerator door shut tightly*
- *Vacuum refrigerator coils*
- *Fix dripping faucets*

### Laundry Room

- *Use cold water to wash your clothes*
- *Only wash full loads of laundry*
- *Use your bath towels more than one time between washings*
- *Hang dry your clothes*
- *Clean the lint screen every time you dry a load of laundry*
- *Every 6 months, clean your lint screen with a brush under running water to remove any film buildup*
- *Turn your water heater thermostat down*

## *Heating your Home*

- *Turn your thermostat down a couple of degrees*
- *Install a timed thermostat*
- *Keep doors and windows shut tightly*
- *Caulk leaky windows and doors to eliminate drafts*
- *Change or clean your furnace filter monthly*
- *Close curtains and blinds at night and open those that let in the sunshine during the daytime*
- *Close the heat vents in rooms you are not using*
- *Run your bathroom fan only long enough to freshen the room so the warm air is not removed through the fan*
- *Keep your garage door closed*

## *Cooling your Home*

- *Close curtains and blinds to keep the sun out in the summer*
- *Close the air conditioning vents in rooms you are not using*
- *Run your bathroom fan only long enough to freshen the room so the cool air is not removed through the fan*
- *Keep your garage door closed*

## **Bathroom**

- *Fix dripping faucets*
- *Do not let your toilet run*
- *Use water saving shower head*
- *Take shorter showers*
- *Only run the fan long enough to freshen the room*

## **Throughout the Home**

- *Always turn unused lights off*
- *Replace old light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs or use a lower wattage bulb*
- *Keep waterbeds covered*
- *Turn your computer off when you are not using it*
- *Opt for energy and water efficient appliances*

## **Outside**

- *Use a sprayer with a shut off on the end of your hose*
- *Don't over water your lawn*
- *Plant drought resistant plants*
- *Do your own yard work*

## OPTIONAL SERVICES

- *Eliminate home telephone features you don't use*
- *Look for bundled deals instead of paying for services separately*
- *Look up phone numbers instead of using directory assistance*
- *Examine your cellular phone services and pick the lowest cost plan that will work for you*
- *Downgrade any optional services or subscriptions you have opted into that are not necessary*
- *Turn your cable television services off*

## PLAN AND SAVE WHILE SHOPPING

- Scan the grocery ads and plan your meals around what is on sale
- Use a shopping list and buy only what is on the list
- Use coupons for items you buy regularly
- Join a coupon club
- Stock up on nonperishable food and paper items when they are on sale
- Buy store brands
- Cut and prepare your own food instead of buying it ready to eat or heat
- Only buy in bulk if you will be able to use all of it
- Share bulk purchases with a friend
- Only buy what perishables you can consume in a timely manner
- Check the expiration date on everything you buy
- Use up what is in your pantry
- Experiment with less expensive brands of soaps, toothpastes, lotions to see if you enjoy them
- Drink your tap water instead of bottled water or soda

- *Let someone else shop for you if you are an impulse buyer*
- *Don't shop on an empty stomach*
- *Buy low cost cleaning products or make your own*
- *Use store brand ibuprofen, acetaminophen, ointments, sun blocks, etc*
- *Ask your medical professional and pharmacist for generic brand prescriptions*
- *Switch supermarkets to get lower prices*
- *If you don't need it, don't buy it*
- *Little expenses add up quickly*
- *Rethink any large purchases before buying*

## WAYS TO SAVE ON TRANSPORTATION

- *Fill up at the gas station that has the lowest prices*
- *Don't drive over the speed limit*
- *Keep the proper air pressure in your automobile tires*
- *Keep your automobile tuned up*
- *Remove any heavy items from your automobile to lighten the load*
- *Consolidate your errands to save on gas and automobile wear*
- *Ask yourself "Is this trip necessary?"*
- *Carpool*
- *Use public transportation*
- *Work from home 1 or 2 days per week if that is an option*
- *Bank online*
- *Shop online*

## BANKING AND INSURANCE

- Find free banking
- Use only your bank's ATMs to avoid fees
- Get your cash back from a grocery store instead of paying ATM fees when your bank is not convenient
- Look for banks or credit unions that pay interest on checking accounts
- Find the highest interest rate on savings accounts
- Shop for lower auto, house, life and medical insurance premiums
- Increase your insurance deductibles
- Call your creditors and ask for a lower interest rate on your installment loans and credit cards
- See if you qualify to have your Private Mortgage Insurance removed from you home loan
- Refinance your mortgage if you can get a lower interest rate
- Pay your credit card payments and loan installments on time to avoid atrocious late fees

## MISCELLANEOUS

- *Check out books and movies from the library for free*
- *Find free concerts and events to attend*
- *Learn to enjoy the free outdoors like hiking, biking, and walking*
- *Exercise at home instead of paying monthly gym dues*
- *Cancel unnecessary monthly subscriptions*
- *Create a neighborhood clubs to swap movies and books*
- *Swap items with friends*
- *Borrow items instead of buying*
- *Wear washable clothing*
- *Don't dry clean anything you don't have to; hand wash instead of dry cleaning, if it is an option*
- *Shop at thrift stores*
- *Find used items in your local classified ads*
- *Buy floor models or slightly damaged (dented) items*
- *Ask for a discount*
- *Fix what is broken instead of replacing it*
- *Mend your clothing instead of replacing them*
- *Child care share*

- *Grow your own food*
- *Brew your own coffee*
- *Meet friends for coffee instead of lunch or dinner*
- *Share a meal if you dine out*
- *Bring your own lunch to work/school*
- *Bring leftovers home when you must eat out*
- *Recycle and save by re-using containers, bags and boxes*
- *Re-use paper by printing on the back or cutting it up for notes*
- *Make your own gifts for birthdays, Christmas, etc.*
- *ALWAYS send in for rebates*
- *Quit smoking*

## WAYS TO PREPARE FOR UNKNOWN CIRCUMSTANCES

- *Diversify your sources of income*
- *Diversify your job qualifications and knowledge skills*
- *Build up your network of contacts for jobs and referrals*
- *Set up a budget and stick to it*
- *Track everything you spend*
- *Reduce your dependency on unnecessary items*
- *Consider downsizing your automobile*
- *Consider trading an automobile in BEFORE you experience problems*
- *Refinance your home, credit cards, and automobiles at a lower rate*
- *Consolidate your monthly outgo*
- *Always make sure you consolidate or refinance with a fixed interest rate*
- *Pay off all balances each month and on time if you use credit*
- *Keep and/or improve your excellent credit rating*
- *Identify priorities*
- *Learn patience*

## HAVE A SAVINGS ACCOUNT

- *Set a savings goal*
- *Pay yourself first*
- *Pay yourself as if it is a monthly bill*
- *Set up automatic deposit from your paycheck into a savings account*
- *Do not spend your savings*
- *Save all of your change and deposit it weekly*

## WAYS TO SAVE YOUR MONEY

- Give yourself a small allowance and don't spend more
- Make money less available by setting up a cash only spending plan instead of using credit and debit cards
- Don't spend next week's paycheck
- Don't spend just because you have extra
- Don't compete with family, neighbors, or anyone else for tangibles
- Make your money 'hard to get to'
- Cut back on extras
- Keep track of everything you spend
- Set up a budget
- Live Simply

## WAYS TO MAKE MONEY

- *Hold a garage sale*
- *Get a booth at a swap meet*
- *Sell unneeded items online*
- *Sell items through a local free classified ads*
- *Sell your items in a consignment shop*
- *Trade in books, DVDs, CDs, and video games*
- *Rent out an extra room or storage area you may have*
- *Offer a service to walk neighborhood dogs*
- *Offer a service to do yard work*
- *Tutor students*
- *Teach musical lessons*
- *Turn your hobby into some extra cash*
- *Start a blog*
- *Start a membership site*
- *Write articles for websites*

## SET LIFE CHANGING GOALS

- *Set a savings goal*
  - *Reasons for goal*
    - *Retirement*
    - *College*
    - *Trips*
    - *Automobile*
    - *Buy a home*
    - *Wedding*
  - *How much*
  - *By when*
  - *How will you save your goal amount*

*It is proven that by writing down your goals and dreams, you are more likely to achieve them. Write them down and work up your plan.*

*If you would like to learn more about goal setting, please visit [www.goalsmentor.com](http://www.goalsmentor.com) or send an email to me for more information.*