

MN 2000  
CRB 12/2/77

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consumer radio briefs

December 2, 1977

Conserving Energy in the Kitchen (0:30)

You can save fuel or energy while you're cooking supper tonight. It won't take longer and the food may even taste better advises household equipment specialist at the University of Minnesota, Wanda Olson.

If potatoes are on the menu, bring the water to a good boil and then turn down the burner to a simmer. Continue cooking on low for about 30 minutes. A burner on low uses about one-fourth as much electricity as the same burner on high.

If it's hard for you to imagine how much fuel is saved, Mrs. Olson compares it to lighting. It takes the energy to light ten 100-watt electric bulbs to cook on high. On low, it takes only the fuel to light two or three 100-watt bulbs.

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New Pet Care (0:25)

Youngsters who receive pets for Christmas often need to learn about pet care. Extension veterinarian at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Ray Solac, recommends feeding a new pet the same food it was receiving from its previous owner for the first two or three days after it is in your home.

Feed young animals more often than older ones. Puppies need three or four meals a day for the first three or four months of age. Young kittens need four meals. Feed six-to-12-month old puppies and adult cats twice a day. One daily feeding is enough for an adult dog.

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Keep Antifreeze From Pets (0:20)

Most commercial antifreeze products contain ethylene glycol, which is toxic to animals that drink it. Unfortunately, say University of Minnesota veterinarians, the solutions seem to be attractive to dogs and cats. Several cases of antifreeze poisoning occur in pets each winter.

As little as one or two ounces can poison a pet. To avoid the danger, drain a radiator into a container rather than letting the liquid spill on the ground.

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