

The Comfort and Associated Cost of a Waterbed

Did you know that Waterbeds could cost a lot to keep warm?

A standard waterbed is like a huge un-insulated water heater. It holds from 500 to 1000 gallons of water that is heated by a thermostat-controlled electric heating unit. Depending on the size of the waterbed, it could use as much as 200 kWh per month to keep the water at a comfortable level. Even more during the summer depending on the air conditioner setting! This would depend on each individual, where the bed is located, the setting of the thermostat and the type of insulating material that covers the bed.

There are ways to lower the use:

- 1. Cover the bed with a comforter when not in use.**
- 2. Keep the waterbed heater set as low as is comfortable.**
- 3. If you don't have an insulated liner, you can use 1/2 inch polystyrene insulation between the wood frame and the liner and also around the sides.**
- 4. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's guidelines when installing it and also follow the recommendations that come with the heater. This is very important for your safety and comfort.**