

MANAGING YOUR MONEY \$

More Fun For Less Funds

(NAPSA)—Whether the country's economy—or your own—is up, down or stuck in the middle, family fun can be easier and less expensive to achieve than many people realize.

Here are five hints that may help:

1. Stop shocking electric bills. Turn your furnace down by 2 degrees or your air conditioner up by 2 degrees to notice significant savings in your monthly bills. Cozy up to the fire or sit outside with the family for more together time and less cost. Unplug TVs, computers, cable/satellite receivers and other electronics when they're not in use. They still use power even when they're turned off.

2. Carpool to school. It saves time, money and gas and gives kids a chance to see their friends a little longer.

3. Visit a spa—at home. Pamper yourself with homemade oat-meal masks, egg-white facials and cold, damp tea bags for better-looking eyes. Making and using all these things as a family can help you feel more relaxed and happy than a day at a real spa.

4. Drive down expenses. When you can, leave the car parked and walk or bike to your destination. It saves gas and wear and tear on the car and can be both good fun and good exercise for the whole family.



The delicious dishes and easy-to-read menu at one family-friendly eatery can help you have a good time without spending big time.

5. When you dine out, do so in style. Choose a restaurant that prides itself on serving high-quality food and satisfying portions, where the dining experience can be positive and memorable. For example, the Perkins Restaurant & Bakery chain says it's more committed than ever to fulfilling guests' needs and earning repeat visits. Even the new menu was developed based on direct feedback from customers. The user-friendly menu, complemented by mouthwatering visuals, offers new entrées for added variety and, in many places where customers requested them, new Calorie Counter dishes. In addition, there's a separate, easy-to-read bakery menu.

You can see the menu and learn more online at www.perkinsrestaurants.com.