

# Community News

## How to Save \$500 in only 30 Days

*If inflation is squeezing your budget, you may be short on cash. Fortunately, there are relatively painless ways to cut costs.*

Cost savings will vary by family, and some households may find that making these adjustments will net them significantly more money in the bank.

### Stay Home One Weekend – \$75 Savings

Do your weekend plans typically involve taking a road trip, seeing a movie, or going out for dinner? Staying home one weekend and finding free entertainment – a game or puzzle night – can add up to significant savings.

### Skip Takeout Once a Week – \$40 Savings

The morning latte is the low-hanging fruit whenever someone is trying to save money. And if you already make your coffee at home, consider packing your lunch or skipping the drive thru once a week.

### Cash in Points – \$50 Savings

Many retailers and financial institutions have loyalty programs or credit cards with points that can be redeemed for rewards or cash. Depending on what you've accumulated, it could save you \$50 or more this month.

### Cancel a Membership – \$40 Savings

Cancel your gym membership and opt to exercise outside, at home or, at a lower cost local rec center.

### Eat From the Pantry – \$40 Savings

It's not unusual for families to have pantries and freezers full of food that was purchased on sale or bought for meals that were never made. One week this month, be creative and plan your menu around those ingredients. You may be able to significantly reduce your grocery bill that week or even skip a trip to the store.

### Go Meatless Once a Week – \$40 Savings

The price of meat, fish, poultry, and eggs rose 10.5% in September 2022 compared to the prior year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. To save money, look for lower-cost ingredients.

### Shop Around for Insurance – \$40 Savings

If you pay your insurance monthly, finding cheaper coverage could save you hundreds of dollars a year.

Changing carriers may be the best way to get cheaper rates, or raising your deductible could lower your premium. Just be sure you have enough savings to cover whatever deductible amount you choose.

### Combine Errands/Carpool – \$32 Savings

Gas is expensive, so if you can save even two gallons a week, that's \$32 more in your wallet each month, assuming a \$4 per gallon price. Working from home, carpooling, combining errands, or having your kids take the bus are all options to drive less.

### Substitute Water for Soda – \$30 Savings

Swapping out soda and other drinks for water could save \$1 a day, although those with a serious soda habit could save more.

Of course, to maximize savings from this strategy, drink filtered or tap water. Simply swapping a bottle of soda for a bottle of water at the store probably won't save you much.

### Turn Down the Thermostat – \$17 Savings

This won't be immediate savings, but you should have more money if you put on a sweater and turn down your thermostat.

The National Energy Assistance Directors' Association estimates average heating costs this winter to be \$1,208 — assuming a seven-month heating season.

### Cancel One Subscription Service – \$10 Savings

Most households have at least one subscription service, and since these are generally paid automatically, it can be easy to overlook how much you're spending.

Streaming services and other subscriptions such as Subscribe & Save deliveries from Amazon, e-books from Audible, or beauty subscription boxes may be draining your bank account.

### Switch to Online Bill Pay – \$6 Savings

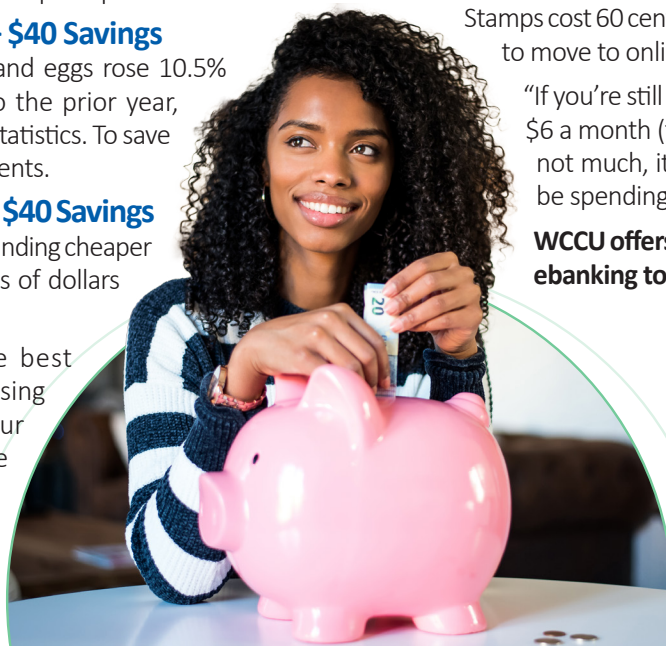
Stamps cost 60 cents apiece now, which means it's time to move to online bill pay if you haven't already.

"If you're still mailing checks to companies, that's \$6 a month (for 10 bills)," Buhrmann says. While not much, it equals \$72 a year that you should be spending on something else.

**WCCU offers free online bill pay. Sign up within ebanking to take advantage of this service.**

**Looking for ways to save money? WCCU can help you reach your financial goals with a Free Credit Report Review.**

**Get started today at [westerlyccu.com/review](https://westerlyccu.com/review)**



# What's New at WCCU!

## Welcome to #TeamWCCU

**Shannon Melchione** has joined WCCU as a Business Development Officer. She has over 25 years of experience in the banking industry.



## WCCU Celebrates a Promotion

**Alycia Marandola** has been promoted to Human Resources Manager. She has over 14 years of Human Resources experience, most recently serving as a Human Resources Specialist.



*The WCCU Staff and Board of Directors congratulate Shannon and Alycia their new positions.*

## Youth Financial Education Resources



Did you know WCCU offers FREE Financial Education resources and games?

Check out the tools and fun, engaging activities to start teaching good money habits to your young saver!

Get started today at [westerlyccu.com/money-smart](http://westerlyccu.com/money-smart)

## Complimentary Virtual Seminars

WCCU members have unlimited access to complimentary seminars covering a variety of topics to increase financial awareness. Below is a schedule of upcoming topics:

**Tuesday, Nov 10:** Income for Life

**Tuesday, Nov 14:** The Three Transitions to Retirement

**Tuesday, Dec 6:** Women & Investing

Register at [westerlyccu.com/seminars](http://westerlyccu.com/seminars)

## Join Us For A Business After Hours!

Refreshments | Prizes | Networking | Bring Business Cards

**11.15.22 • 5:30pm – 7:30pm**

**WCCU Coventry Branch**

2405 Nooseneck Hill Rd. | Coventry, RI 02891

RSVP by 11.14.2022 to [khevenor@westerlyccu.com](mailto:khevenor@westerlyccu.com)

## November Comfort Animals Collection

Donate a **NEW, UNWRAPPED** stuffed animal now through Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at WCCU!

**WCCU Cares:** WCCU is a proud sponsor of Mini's Making a Difference. Donations benefit local police and emergency departments and will be made available to children when they need it most.

For details, visit [www.minismd.org](http://www.minismd.org)



## #WCCU Halloween Fun to Support a Cause

**WCCU Cares:** WCCU staff dressed down in jeans and wore black/orange or a costume this Halloween to raise funds in support of Rhode Island Center Assisting Those in Need.

Learn more about the organizations and charities we support at [westerlyccu.com/cares](http://westerlyccu.com/cares)



## Dates to Remember

**Friday, Nov. 11:** Closed for Veterans Day

**Thursday, Nov. 24:** Closed for Thanksgiving

**Westerly  
Community  
Credit Union**

Westerly ~ Richmond ~ Wakefield ~ Coventry

[www.westerlyccu.com](http://www.westerlyccu.com)

401.596.7000



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