HOBOKEN

Summer Energy Savings

FAST FACTS:

- Cranking up the air conditioning to cool the house quickly doesn't work. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.
- Setting your air conditioner at 70˚F instead of 78˚F can almost double your operating cost!
- Your central air conditioner will use about 100 times more energy than a fan at medium speed.
- Ceiling fans use only about as much energy as a 100-watt light bulb.
- Cleaning your air conditioner filter can save up to 5% on cooling costs.
- Only about 10% to 15% of the electricity used by incandescent bulbs creates light, the rest is turned into heat.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

You can help! We can work together to conserve energy and lower energy bills by following these tips.

1. **Crack the windows.** Open windows at night to allow the outside air to cool your home, rather than using air conditioning.
2. **Shut out the sun, let in the moon**. Block all sunlight and shut windows/doors during day, and open at night. This is a no-cost way to keep your home a little cooler.

3. **Maintain your air conditioner.** Clean or replace your furnace filter monthly and "tune-up" your AC annually. Keeping your furnace clean, lubricated and properly adjusted will reduce energy use.
4. **Raise the thermostat.** Run the AC thermostat set on "AUTO", never on FAN. Install a smart thermostat, programmable thermostat, or set a timer so that your thermostat is 78˚F or higher during the day and 85˚F at night or when leaving home for an extended time. If you can't do so, raise your thermostat by just 1˚F to 2˚F at all times (or more when you are not home).
5. **Avoid turning on AC to really cold temp.** It won't cool faster –- whenever it's running it's cooling as fast as it can. Set low, it cools longer, not faster.

6. **Clear the way for cool air.** Keep inside air vents clear from furniture and other objects.
7. **Keep the warm air out and the cold air in.** Use weather stripping, clear plastic sheeting, caulk, or tape to seal up cracks and stop drafts in windows and doors. Beneath doors, install draft guards or door snakes. Caulk leaks where pipes, vents, or electrical conduits go through a wall, ceiling or floor.
8. **Use a fan.** Learn how to properly use AC and fan together for cooling. A ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4˚F with no reduction in comfort. When weather is mild, use fans instead of the air conditioner. Turn off ceiling fans when you leave the room. Remember that fans cool people, not rooms, by creating a wind chill effect.

9. **Reduce heat from lighting.** Lights add heat to the room. Install efficient lighting that runs cooler. Keep up the habit of turning off lights as you leave a room, especially in summer. Use only as much light as you need.
10. **Be a speedy chef.** Nothing is more energy efficient for cooking than your microwave. It uses two-thirds less energy than your stove.

11. **Fill up the fridge.** Having lots of food in your fridge keeps it from warming up too fast when the door is open, so your fridge doesn't have to work as hard to stay cool. Keep the door open for as little time as possible.

LEARN MORE:

PSE&G Summer Energy Savings Tips https://www.pseg.com/home/save/manage_costs/summer_tips.jsp

US DOE Energy Savers Spring and Summer Energy Savings Tips http://www.energy.gov/energysaver/spring-and-summer-energy-saving-tips

Pacific Power Summer Energy Savings Tips https://www.pacificpower.net/res/sem/het/tsest.html

Summer Time Energy Savings Tips http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/tips/summer.html