



**August 2017**

## **Summer Tips for Saving Energy**

Summer and the high temperatures it brings increased electrical loads. Keep cool this summer and save energy costs by following these simple tips around the house.

### **Summer cooling tips**

- ♣ Turn off unnecessary lights. Much of the energy from a light bulb is heat.
- ♣ Replace incandescent bulbs with CFL and LED bulbs.
- ♣ Make sure furniture or drapes do not block your registers for supply and return air.
- ♣ Wear thin, loosely fitting clothes and you may not have to keep room temperatures as cool.
- ♣ Keep the sun out. Close blinds, shades or curtains during the hottest part of the day.
- ♣ On mild days, open windows for natural ventilation and turn the air conditioning off.
- ♣ Use portable or ceiling fans. Run ceiling fans counterclockwise. Mild air movement of 1 MPH can make you feel 3 to 4 degrees cooler.
- ♣ Apply sun-control or other reflective films on south-facing windows.

### **Cooking**

- ♣ Cook on your outdoor grill. The stove/oven can raise the kitchen temperature 5 to 10 degrees.
- ♣ Use a microwave instead of a conventional oven to save money and keep your kitchen cooler.
- ♣ Move a spare refrigerator out of the garage to a basement or spare room; the unit won't have to work as hard to keep food cold.

### **Household chores**

- ♣ Do heat- and moisture-producing jobs such as cooking, cleaning, ironing and laundry during the cooler early morning and evening hours.
- ♣ Air-dry dishes instead of using the dishwasher's heat drying cycle.
- ♣ Avoid unnecessary trips in and out of the house, especially on very hot days. Heat and humidity come in each time you open the door.

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