

Did you know that 46% of your utility bill goes toward heating and cooling your home? These helpful tips can help you save energy and money, without sacrificing comfort:

Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning (HVAC)

- You can save as much as 10% a year on your heating and cooling bills by simply turning your thermostat back 10% to 15% for 8 hours. You can do this automatically with a programmable thermostat.
- Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and, therefore, unnecessary expense.
- Clean or replace filters on HVAC systems.
- Consider using an interior fan in conjunction with your window air conditioner to spread the cooled air more effectively through your home without greatly increasing your power use.



Fans

- Turn off ceiling and/or floor fans when leaving a room.
- Ceiling fans, table fans and floor fans create a wind chill effect that will make you more comfortable in your home, even if it's also cooled by natural ventilation or air conditioning.
- If you use air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4°F with no reduction in comfort. Install a fan in each room that needs to be cooled during hot weather.



Windows

- During the cooling season, keep window coverings closed during the day to prevent solar gain.
- During the heating season, keep the draperies and shades on your south-facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.



Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy



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