

## SUMMER TIME ENERGY SAVING TIPS

With very little effort and with very few dollars you can conserve on your summer time energy use which saves dollars on your utility bill. You will be surprised to see how much you can reduce your energy consumption, and cost, by following a few simple tips:

- Check and clean A/C filters. Cleaning or replacing air conditioning filters monthly allows your system to run more efficiently. Dirty filters restrict airflow and can cause your system to run longer and increase energy use.
- Run your ceiling fans. Most ceiling fans have a switch to change the fan direction. Make sure the ceiling fans are blowing downward to send air across your body.
- Run appliances, with large energy use, late in the evening and only run with full loads. Appliances like dishwashers and clothes washers/dryers produce heat in your home causing your air conditioner to work harder.
- Place heat producing appliances, such as lamps and televisions, away from the air conditioning thermostat to prevent inaccurate temperature readings.
- Install a programmable thermostat. Set your programmable thermostat to 78 degrees while you are home. To maximize savings set it higher when you are away during the day.
- Replace incandescent and halogen light bulbs with CFL's or LED's. Not only will you save on lighting energy cost but incandescent and halogen bulbs convert most of their energy to heat and will increase your air conditioning cost.
- Create indoor shade. Make use of curtains and blinds to keep sunlight from turning into indoor heat.
- Seal your leaks. Caulk or use weather stripping to seal leaks around windows and doors. Keep the cool air in and the warm air out.
- Use a Home Energy Conservation Calculator. The City of Concord has a link to an energy conservation calculating tool (Energy Depot, hosted by Enercom, Inc.) that may be a valuable resource to Concord utility customers. Information presented is based on user input as well as accepted engineering calculations or assumptions.
- Review your home electric information. The City of Concord also has a link to view your electric usage information, pay your utility bill, or report a problem. This link is on this web site named [e-Care](#).

The City of Concord's Electric Systems Department is committed to assisting our customers with controlling their electric usage. After utilizing the web based tools you still have additional questions, contact the City's Customer Care Center at 704-920-5555.