

Tips To Lower Your

COOLING COSTS

1

Plant Trees For Shade

Shady trees around your house can greatly reduce a “greenhouse effect” in your home by limiting the direct sunlight coming in through windows and beating down on the roof.

2

Be Thermostat-Smart

Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible (78 degrees is recommended) and raise it a bit when you’re away. Better yet, install a programmable thermostat.

3

Lights Out!

Incandescent lights are the least efficient, with 90 percent of their energy given off as heat. Try gradually switching to more efficient lighting and consider lighting controls like timers.

4

Check Your Filters

Clean or replace air conditioning filters at least once per month. This is one of the quickest ways to lower your energy bill, as a clean AC system uses less energy and has a longer life span.

5

Draw the Shades

Drawing your windows’ shades, blinds or curtains keeps direct sunlight — a concentrated heat source — out. Make it a habit to do this when you’re out of the house.

6

Use Fans

Whether ceiling, table, floor, or wall-mounted, fans create a wind-chill effect that can lower the “real feel” of air temps by 6-7 degrees.

7

Seal Those Leaks

Check throughout your home for gaps and leaks and repair them with caulking or weather stripping to keep cool air from escaping and hot air from entering.

8

Maintain Your AC

Besides changing the filters, have a professional do regular maintenance annually, which can more than pay for itself in terms of long-term energy savings.

9

Be Mindful of Appliances

Running your appliances (oven, dryer, stove, dishwasher) can build up a lot of heat in the house and send your AC into overdrive. Try to stagger appliance use.



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