

ENERGY SAVING TIPS FOR AIR CONDITIONING

Air conditioners work on the same operating principles and basic components as your home refrigerator.

Cooling your home with central air conditioning can use almost as much energy as heating your home.

Here are a few suggestions that can help you reduce the amount of energy used by your air conditioner, control your cooling costs and help the environment.

- When running the central air, set the thermostat as high as is comfortable. The minimum recommended temperature for energy efficiency is 78 degrees F. Each degree setting below 78 degrees F will increase energy consumption by approximately 8%.
- Shade windows that get direct sunlight in order to reduce radiant heat in the room while using air conditioning.
- Help to reduce the cooling load by deferring heat generating activities such as clothes washing, running the dishwasher, cooking on the stove or in the oven during the hottest part of the day.
- When cooling the home, keep the house closed tight during the daytime. Don't let in unwanted heat and humidity. If practical, ventilate at night either naturally or with fans.
- Professionally inspect, clean and tune central air conditioning unit in order to save energy and to help it last longer. Inquire about the proper maintenance schedule with a service technician.
- When shopping for a new central air conditioning unit, buy the correct size. A properly sized unit cools air and removes humidity more effectively, and costs less to operate.
- We hope you will consider Energy Star label central air conditioning when purchasing a new unit. Energy Star appliances have been identified as being significantly more energy efficient than average comparable models.

Brought to you by Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant



For more information call the Energy New England Hotline at: 1-888-772-4242