



Cool Your Home

1

Inside the House

Tips to keep you cool inside

A. Use fans. Ceiling fans, box fans, whatever!

Ceiling fans make the room feel cooler because they create a breeze that helps evaporate perspiration. Just remember to turn them off if no one is in the room.

B. Air Conditioning - Set your thermostat as high as you are comfortable with. Start by increasing just a degree or two and keep going up. You might keep it higher than you think you can!

C. Clean air filters, keep return air vents clear. Dirty filters can reduce the efficiency of your system and can block air circulation. Keep return air vents clean of anything (furniture, rugs, drapes, etc.).

2

Go GREEN Outside

Make home improvements that will save you money in the long run.

A. Insulation. Make sure you attic and roof area are properly insulated to keep heat from coming in. Caulking and weatherstripping windows also help keep heat out. Blackout or heat-blocking curtains can naturally insulate a room.

B. Awnings. Awnings can reduce cooling energy use by 26 percent in hot climates and 33 percent in temperate climates. Or try closing shutters or using external blinds.

C. Use cool colors. Paint exterior walls light colors to reflect rather than absorb heat. Choose light-colored roofs also.

D. Plant trees. Plant deciduous trees (such as maple or ash) on the southwest or west side of the house. Trees not only provide shade, they also cool the air through evapotranspiration. Planting vines can also help cool a house by keeping the sun from the walls.

