

Tips to help you save energy at home

No-cost Tips

- **Adjust the thermostat.** Adjust up in the summer and shut off when not in use. Even a few degrees can significantly reduce air conditioning costs. In the summer, set your air conditioner to 78 degrees or higher. Changing the A/C thermostat from 72 to 78 degrees can save up to 12% of your cooling costs. Gain remote control and get a rebate on a [smart programmable thermostat](#).
- **Switch to Time of Use.** Looking for a new opportunity to save money on your electricity bill? Consider switching to a Time of Use (TOU) pricing plan. With Time of Use, there's no High Usage Charge and each day is broken into on-peak and off-peak time zones (and sometimes even super off-peak), with energy costing less during the off-peak hours. Learn more at [sdge.com/whenmatters](#).
- **Sign up for bill assistance.** We also offer bill assistance programs for those that may need help paying their bill. You can explore options by visiting our [assistance page](#) and see if you are eligible for a monthly discount, energy efficiency improvements, or use certain medical devices and need help.
- **Sign up for level bill pay.** You can have a more predictable energy bill simply by signing up for our Level Pay Plan. It automatically evens out the monthly highs and lows so your energy bills are more consistent. When you know what to expect, it's easier to plan your budget. Visit [sdge.com/lpp](#) and have your account number handy.
- **Block direct sunlight in the summer.** Close window coverings, or shade exposed windows with solar shade screens, reflective films, awnings or [trees](#).
- **Target your top opportunities** to save energy and money with the online energy management tools you'll find in [My Account](#).
- **Get alerts.** Go into [My Account](#) and click on the alerts and subscriptions tab. You can sign up for a spending goal alerts, which will tell you when you have reached a dollar amount that you don't want to surpass.
- **View [one-minute tip videos](#)** for more energy-saving ideas on cooling, weatherization, refrigerators, home electronics, indoor/outdoor lighting and pools.
- **Power down.** Turn off or set office equipment to power down when not in use. Turning off one computer and monitor nightly and on weekends can save up to \$80 a year. Setting PCs, monitors and copiers to use sleep mode when not in use can help cut energy costs by up to 50 percent. Use power strips or unplug electronics such as DVRs, game consoles and TVs that draw power even when switched off.
- **Lower the thermostat on your water heater.** 120° F is sufficient for most common uses. A 10° F reduction can save up to five percent on water heating costs. This only affects gas usage, unless your water heater is electric.

Low-cost Tips

- **Switching from A/C to fans.** If you can comfortably do so it makes a big difference. Using a portable or ceiling fan to circulate air in one room can cost about 4 cents per hour. Cooling your entire house with central A/C can cost about \$1 to \$2 per hour.
- **Freshen A/C filters regularly.** Clean or replace the filter in your central A/C to help it run more efficiently.
- **Weatherstrip and caulk** drafty doors and windows to keep conditioned air in and save up to 5% on cooling costs.
- **Use LEDs.** Replace incandescent bulbs with LEDs (light emitting diodes), which provide the same amount of light, use up to 75 percent less energy and can last up to 10 times longer.
- **Filter your swimming pool for less** when you switch to an energy-efficient, variable-speed pool pump.
- **Use a pool or spa cover.** Covers can reduce heat loss by up to 90%.
- **Install occupancy sensors.** These inexpensive devices can reduce lighting costs by up to 40 percent.
- **Install [programmable thermostats](#) or [time clocks](#)** to automatically control temperature settings on heating and air conditioning equipment. You can also get a [\\$75 rebate](#) on eligible programmable thermostats.
- **Invest in energy-efficient equipment.** Always look for the ENERGY STAR® symbol, which indicates it meets federal standards for energy efficiency.

For more ways to save visit [sdge.com/summer](#).