Take the Heat Off Your Summer Bills

Long summer days and hot weather lead to increased air conditioning use and higher electric bills. Electric use usually reaches its peak in July, when average monthly usage for residential customers typically exceeds 1,200 kilowatt hours. Following a few simple steps and taking advantage of UES’ energy efficiency programs can help you reduce your summertime energy expenses.

Simple Steps

› Set your thermostat at the highest comfortable temperature. Every degree you raise your thermostat can reduce your overall energy costs by about 2-3 percent.
› Use ceiling or oscillating fans to keep air moving so you feel cooler.
› Keep window coverings closed, especially during the afternoon in rooms facing west.
Energy Efficiency Programs

Replace traditional bulbs with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and light-emitting diodes (LEDs), which are sold in local stores at a discount made possible by UES. Both CFLs and LEDs use less energy and generate 75-90 percent less heat, reducing your home cooling costs.

Consider planting trees that will help you conserve energy by shading buildings and reducing the effects of urban heat islands. UES’ Trees for You Program offers rebates to UES electric service customers of up to $15 each on the purchase of two qualified desert-adapted shade trees.

Limited-income households may be eligible for energy efficiency upgrades through UES’ Weatherization Assistance Program. New insulation, upgraded cooler motors and other home improvements are provided at no cost to eligible recipients, though funding is limited.

Visit uesaz.com to learn more about these and other energy efficiency programs.