



For Immediate Release

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As the Heat Turns Up, Cool Down and Save Money

This summer beat the heat with these simple 7 steps.

Lakewood-----Avoid high summer energy bills and stay comfortable with these 7 tips from Smart Energy Living

1. Schedule an annual checkup for your central air conditioner with a licensed contractor and check or replace your filter once a month
2. Replace old or broken down central air conditioners with new, high-efficiency equipment.
3. Keep your windows and window coverings closed during the day and open them during the cooler evenings.
4. Conduct a self evaluation for air leaks and seal them with caulking, weather stripping or expanding foam. Common areas for leaks include old windows, attics, recessed lights, appliance vents and fireplaces.
5. Many appliances are "ghost" energy users. This means that even when they are off, they are using energy and putting off heat. DVR's and computers are big culprits. Try to plug all of your media equipment into power-strips that are easily accessible. When not in use, switch the strip off
6. Replace your old incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. Not only do they use less energy, they also create less heat.
7. Enter to win a free home energy makeover and solar p.v. system through Xcel Energy and the Colorado Energy Science Center. This 4th annual makeover includes a new a.c. system, new windows and window coverings, a solar p.v. system, and much more. Winners are selected for high energy use and other home factors.

Learn more at www.smartenergyliving.org

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