

## **Energy Saving tips for Spring and Summer**

Use your windows to gain cool air and keep out heat

Operate your thermostat efficiently – set it as high as comfortably possible in the summer. Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Use fans when in a room for cooling and raise the thermostat. Turn off ceiling fans when not in a room. (Fans cool people not rooms).

Schedule regular maintenance for your cooling equipment. Replace AC filters regularly. Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your room air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat will sense the heat and cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

Avoid using the oven on hot days. Cook on the stove, use a microwave, or grill outside.

Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes or consider air drying both dishes and clothing.

As old bulbs burn out, replace them with new LEDs, they use up to 25% less energy and can last up to 12 times longer. Unplug any electronic devices not in use.

Seal crack and openings to prevent air from leaking into your home. Seal any air leaks around doors and windows.

Water heating accounts for about 18% of energy consumed in the home. Turn down temperature of your water heater to warm setting. Take short showers instead of baths.

If replacing old appliances, look for products that have earned the ENERGY STAR label. They meet new energy efficiency criteria that will reduce you utility bills and help the environment. ENERGY STAR clothes washers, for example, use approximately 40% less water and 25% less energy for washing than standard models.