

May 2010

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Warmer weather is upon us and many people have started to use their central air conditioning and/or window ac units at work and home. You can cut your electric bills significantly by paying attention to how you are using air conditioning. Try these energy-saving cooling tips at:

Click on: http://financialplan.about.com/od/savingmoney/a/CoolingCosts.htm

Here are tips taken from The Green Book by Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen:

- AC accounts for the 2nd highest use of electricity in commercial buildings. Being more energy efficient with AC during peak summer months in just the western region of the US could save enough electric to power 300,000 homes for a year!
- Households that use Energy Star appliances automatically become more energy efficient, saving up to \$600 a year in energy costs
- If possible, use ceiling fans instead of AC and use them along with a higher AC setting to circulate cool air. It costs about 1 cent an hour to run a ceiling fan compared to 16 cents an hour for an air conditioner and about 43 cents an hour for central air!
- Homeowners spend over \$220 a year on AC. Energy Star labeled equipment will save 20 to 40% on energy compared to standard systems/units. Using a programmable thermostat will help you save energy and money, using less or no AC during unoccupied time and setting temps up when you are asleep.

Here's more info from Penn State Cooperative Extension Site about Energy for work and home: http://energy.cas.psu.edu/Default.htm

Energy Conservation Update:

April Savings 2010 - 39.46% or \$72,731 (Electric/Gas/Oil)

September 2007 through April 2010 - 23.23% or \$1,135,348 (Electric/Gas/Oil)



April- top 3 Electric Savers in our largest buildings (over 60,000 sq. feet):

- CASHS 48.21%
- CAMS 41.70%
- Scotland 34.87%

April- top 3 Electric Savers in our smaller Elementary buildings (under 60,000 sq. feet):

- Coldbrook 49.32%
- Grandview 38.44%
- Falling Spring 36.30%

April- Electric Savers in our other smaller buildings (Dept. Bldgs./ Alternative Schools):

- Letterkenny 619 (Building unoccupied and shutdown) 89.68%
- Stevens Annex 33.65%
- Transportation 21.88%

April- District-wide Electric Savings: 36.16%

32-Month Environmental Impact/Greenhouse Gas Reduction: ~46,126 MMBTU's energy reduction ~7,175 Metric tons of CO2 reduced...less pollution/emissions!

Equates to: Removing 1,288 cars from the road for one year

Planting 183,513 tree seedlings and growing for 10 years

