

# HOW TO KEEP YOUR COOL WHEN THE SEASON HEATS UP

## Welcome to summer!

But don't think that the higher temperatures mean that you have to put up with the higher utility bills. Kentucky's Department for Energy Development and Independence and ENERGY STAR can help keep you cool and reduce energy costs.

The secret is to keep your cooling system from working too hard.



## TOP 5 WAYS TO CHILL OUT THIS SUMMMER

● Do it now    ● Quick Projects    ● Plan and Renovate

### 1 Keep the Heat Out

- Improve insulation between your attic and roof. If you can see the ceiling joists, add more.
- If you are upgrading your windows, consider ENERGY STAR certified windows.
- Use your window coverings, add new ones, or adjust blinds to keep the sun out.
- The right roof can do a lot to keep the heat out. Consider ENERGY STAR certified roof products.

### 2 Keep the Cool In

- Seal and insulate the cooling system ducts in your attic or crawl space.
- Find air leaks around your house and seal with spray foam, caulk, and weather-stripping. Sealing and insulating your home can save you up to \$200 in annual utility bills.

### 3 Maintain Your Cooling System

- Schedule a summer cooling system tune up.
- Change your air filter every three months.
- Use a programmable thermostat. Set it seven degrees higher when you're away and four degrees higher when you're asleep and save about \$180 a year.

### 4 Be a Fan of Fans

- Use an ENERGY STAR certified ceiling fan and raise your thermostat two degrees. It'll lower cooling costs by 14%.

### 5 Look for the ENERGY STAR

- Look for the ENERGY STAR label when purchasing new air conditioning equipment and dehumidifiers and cut cooling costs by 30%.
- Replace those old, hot incandescent light bulbs with much cooler ENERGY STAR certified light bulbs.

Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet  
Department for Energy Development and Independence  
<http://energy.ky.gov>