

High August temperatures cause high energy use

Because of higher summer temperatures air conditioners, fans and pool pumps have been worked to an extreme. During the months of July and August triple digit temperatures coupled with high humidity have caused the costs to cool your home to rise. Despite this, the average Southern Pine customer spends less than \$4.50 per day for all the conveniences that electricity affords. However, with conscientious energy consumption and some simple maintenance you and your family can save even more money.

Control the thermostat- Reports indicate that you can save 1 to 3 percent per degree for each degree the air conditioning thermostat is set above 72 degrees. Set your thermostat at 78 degrees when you are home and at 85 when you are out of town.

Use Ceiling Fans- Ceiling fans help circulate air and will make you feel cooler. This will allow you to turn up the temperature on your thermostat.

Change the air filter on your heating/cooling system- Change your filter monthly because dirty filters restrict airflow and can cause the system to run longer, increasing energy use.

Electricity is still today's best bargain, although the cost of fuel to generate electricity continues to be volatile. By following these simple tips you and your family will be able to live comfortably without breaking the bank account.