



TIPS TO SAVE ENERGY DURING Summer

Summer Air Conditioner Preparation

- Service your air conditioner or heat pump on a regular basis.
- Clean or change filters monthly or as recommended by the filter manufacturer.
- Remove leaves and other debris that may be obstructing the outdoor unit.
- Clean and check the air vents and remove obstructions.
- Install an attic fan to circulate air and keep you cooler.

Save Energy and Reduce Heat Loads

- Install awnings or blinds to shade windows. Close blinds or window coverings during the day.
- Set the thermostat to 78°F when you are home and higher when you are not.
- Use ceiling or portable fans to stay cool. Circulating air removes heat from the skin making you feel cooler.
- Turn off lights, electronics, and appliances when not in use.
- Reduce energy use all year long by properly insulating your home.
- Plant shade trees to keep your home cooler naturally. Deciduous trees reduce the heat around the home and cool air through transpiration.

Use Appliances and Electricity Wisely

- Avoid using heat generating items during the day. Washing and drying clothes, ironing, showering, cooking, and dish washing add heat and humidity to the air making your AC work harder.
- When using the stove, keep pans on the correct burner size and covered to avoid escaping heat and humidity.
- Use a microwave, toaster oven, or the outdoor barbecue grill as a “cooler” cooking option.
- Run your dishwasher only for full loads.
- Dry laundry on a clothesline outside. When you use the clothes dryer, use the moisture sensor setting to avoid over-drying clothes.
- Use LEDs and CFLs, which produce less heat, use less energy, and last longer than incandescent bulbs.

Help Reduce the City's Peak Power Demand from 6:00 to 8:00 a.m and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Avoid using your clothes washer, clothes dryer, dishwasher, or other electrical appliances during this time. This will help the City save on its wholesale power bill and keep electric rates low for everyone.

Check Out Our Low-Interest Loan and Rebate Programs

Make your home more comfortable with a new high efficiency heat pump, ductless heat pump, duct sealing, insulation, or windows. Learn more about low-interest loans and rebates available by visiting www.ci.richland.wa.us/EnergyServices or calling 942-7431.