

Summer Energy Savings: Tips Every Homeowner Should Know

Beaver County Association of Realtors® – Summer is fun, but spending more on utility bills isn't. However, there are ways homeowners can beat the heat while saving their wallets.

“Utility bills often rise during this time of year,” notes BCAR President Brett Green. “In Pennsylvania, summers can get especially hot. There are various measures you can take, both small and big, to help cut back on energy costs.”

One simple way to use less energy is to keep curtains closed during the day, blocking some sunlight and heat from entering the home. Homeowners should also use their thermostats efficiently, minimizing the difference between the outside and inside temperatures to use less energy. Keeping the home warmer when away and lower when at home is an efficient way to cut costs.

Fans can help circulate air, but remember to turn them off in empty rooms when not in use. Unplug/turn off other unused electronics and lights as well, and avoid placing lamps and other heat sources near the thermostat.

Homeowners can take further steps to save money this summer, including switching to LED lightbulbs, getting a smart/programmable thermostat, installing energy-efficient windows, sealing leaks and weatherstripping around openings, taking shorter, cooler showers, washing full loads of laundry with cold water and regularly maintaining heating/cooling systems.

“The average U.S. household is expected to spend nearly \$800 on electricity this summer, according to the [National Energy Assistance Directors Association](#),” Green cited. “That’s a 10.5% national increase compared to last year. In our mid-Atlantic region, we’re expected to see a 7.9% increase in electric bills, but the estimated overall cost is still \$799.”

“As prices rise alongside temperatures, the importance of conserving energy and keeping household expenses in check continues to grow,” he concluded. “Following these simple tips can help you save without sacrificing your comfort.”

###

The Pennsylvania Association of Realtors® is a trade/professional association that serves more than 38,000 members in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.