Here's how you can manage your energy use in summer and winter months.

By following the helpful tips below, managing your electric bill in the summer and winter months doesn't have to be complicated or expensive.

In the summer.

Control your thermostat

- A setting of 78 degrees is ideal for energy efficiency. If you can raise it and remain comfortable, your savings will increase.
- If you are leaving your home for more than a few hours, raise the thermostat 4 degrees or more than normal.

Window air conditioning units

- If possible, locate window air-conditioning units on the north or shady side of the house. Direct sunlight falling on your unit increases its workload.

Fans

- Use fans where possible. Portable fans or ceiling fans can make the air feel about 10 degrees cooler.

Appliances

- Run heat-producing appliances like dishwashers and clothes dryers in the evening.
- Prepare cool meals such as salads and sandwiches. Barbecue outdoors, instead of using the oven or range.
- Switch pool filters, sweeper operations and spa filters to late evening hours.

The sun

- Close drapes and blinds to keep out the sun's rays during the day.

In the winter.

Control your thermostat

- A setting of 68 degrees is ideal. If you can lower it and remain comfortable, your savings will increase.

Vents & Filters

- Be sure to clean or replace your furnace or heat pump filters regularly.
- Be sure not to block your vents with furniture, plants or other objects, and keep the return air vents clean.

The sun

- Selectively open and close drapes and blinds during the day to maximize solar heat gain. Close them at night to keep the warm air in.

Give us a call: 1-800-282-5064 or visit South Central Power Online

South Central Power Co.

What's using the most electricity in your home?

Appliances	Typical Wattage
Aerator	373
Attic Fan	370
Blender	386
Clothes Dryer	4800
Plasma TV	1000
Deep Fryer	1488
Dehumidifier	300
Dishwasher	1201
Electric Range/Oven	12000
Freezer	750
Garbage Disposal	700
Hair Dryer	1500
Home Office (Computer, Printer, etc.)	550
Hot Tub	9000
Incandescent Light	100
Refrigerator/Freezer	780
Sump Pump (.5 HP)	373
Tanning Bed	2400
Water Bed	500

How to calculate an appliance's hourly cost

In order to estimate the amount of electricity your particular appliance will use, you must do some investigating. First, locate the manufacturer's nameplate and find the watts used by the appliance. If amperes (AMPS), instead of watts, are listed, multiply the amps by the rated voltage (usually 120 or 240 volts) to get the watts.

For example:

Suppose you have an appliance that uses 450 watts.

Kilowatts = 450 / 1000 = .45 kW

Hourly cost = .45 kW x Current KWH rate

How energy efficient is your home?

Take charge of your energy costs with the do-it-yourself Home Energy Walk-Through checklist available on South Central Power online.

- ☑ Caulking on windows (no gaps)
- ☑ Heat pump or A/C clean from debris

For more energy-saving resources, visit South Central Power Online.

Call us at 1.800.282.5064 www.southcentralpower.com