

# ENERGY MATTERS

## Save Energy, Money And The Climate

(NAPS)—After over a year of staying close to home, lots of people are ready for summer fun. However, warm days can mean much higher energy bills—but you can do something about that.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program has a few tips to help you prep your home so you can save energy and money all summer long.



**You and your family may enjoy the warm weather more when you know you're spending less on energy.**

**Step #1: Get Your HVAC System Ready:** Check your air filters monthly. A dirty air filter will slow down air flow and make the system work harder to keep you cool—wasting energy.

**Step #2: Get Smart About Your Thermostat Use:** The average home spends \$1,900 per year on utility bills, nearly half going to heating and cooling. The more you spend on those bills the more you could save with an ENERGY STAR-certified smart thermostat—up to \$100 a year.

**Step #3: Cool Your Home Efficiently:** If you're in the market for a new room air conditioner, choose one that's earned the ENERGY STAR label. Certified models cost less than \$70 per year to run, on average. If your HVAC cooling equipment is more than 10 years old, it may be time to consider a replacement. Check out the ENERGY STAR Heating and Cooling guide to choose the right equipment to help you save energy ([energystar.gov/hvacguide](http://energystar.gov/hvacguide)). Select products even come with substantial tax credits.

### Learn More

Visit [energystar.gov/cooling](http://energystar.gov/cooling) for other tips and resources.