Routinely replace or clean your air conditioner's filter. Replacing a dirty, clogged filter can reduce your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5 to 15 percent.



When it's warm out, avoid using the oven. Try cooking on the stove, using the microwave or grilling outside instead.

Are you using your fireplace efficiently? Remember to turn down the thermostat when burning a fire, and close the damper when a fire is not burning.

Want to light up your outdoor space without increasing your energy use? Try outdoor solar lights! They're easy to install and virtually maintenance free. Remember, solar lights work best when the solar cells receive the manufacturer's recommended hours of sunliaht.



## **3-Step** HVAC Test

As summer temperatures rise, so do electric bills. Follow these steps to test the efficiency of your HVAC unit.

The outdoor temperature should be above 80 degrees, and you should set your thermostat well below the room temperature to ensure the system runs long enough for this test.

- Using a digital probe thermometer (about \$12), measure the temperature of the air being pulled into your HVAC filter.
- Measure the temperature of the air blowing out of your A/C vent.
- 3. Subtract the A/C vent temperature from the HVAC filter temperature. You should see a difference of about 17 to 20 degrees. If the difference is less than 17 degrees, you may need a licensed technician to check the coolant. If the difference is greater than 20 degrees, your ductwork may need to be inspected for airflow restrictions

Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your airconditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the A/C to run longer than necessary.



Streaming content with electronic equipment that has earned the ENERGY STAR® rating will use 25 to 30 percent less energy than standard equipment.

Spring is nearly here! Now is the perfect time to test your A/C and ensure it's ready for summer. Remember to check the evaporator coil, which should be cleaned annually for optimal efficiency.



Laundry Tip: Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.



Heading out of town for the holidays? Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets, like TVs, gaming consoles, chargers and DVD players use energy when plugged into an outlet, even when they're not in use.











Today, more than **4,000 smart devices** are available to consumers.

A recent international survey asked people how they are using smart home assistants.

**65**%

check weather and news, and play music

**6**%

control lighting, televisions and other appliances



# GET SMART ABOUT ENERGY SAVINGS

"Smart" devices and appliances save time and offer convenience - but not all save energy. The guide below shows how several trendy smart home technologies stack up when it comes to energy savings.

#### **Smart Energy Savers**



- Thermostats
- Washing machines and dryers
- Dishwashers
- EV charging stations

- Pool pumps
- Air conditioners
- Light bulbs and fixtures
- Power strips



























#### **Just Smart**

- Virtual assistants
  (like Amazon's Alexa or Apple HomeKit)
- Smart locks

- Smart alarms
- Smart video security cameras