

**Reduce energy use, lower bills
by following these simple tips**

Here are some simple ways to reduce energy and lower your bills:



- Fix leaks to avoid wasting water. Conserving water is a good move and if you're leaking warm or hot water, your water heater may be working overtime and consuming energy unnecessarily.

- Turn off your computer. Contrary to popular belief, you won't shorten the life of your computer by turning it on and off, but you will save energy. When you leave the room, also remember to turn off the light.
- Turn your water heater down to 120 degrees or the "normal" setting, and insulate exposed hot water pipes.
- Use the microwave. A microwave uses 2/3 less energy than a regular oven. Because it doesn't emit heat into your kitchen, your air conditioner won't work as hard on hot summer days.
- Fill the dishwasher or clothes washer. Washing a full load saves water and the energy needed to heat the water. Plus, you'll use less laundry or dishwashing detergent.

- Lower your air conditioner by one degree. It's estimated for each degree you lower it you will decrease your energy use by one percent and you may not even notice the difference.

- Close shades in summer; open them in winter.

- Close the refrigerator door. Repeatedly opening and closing the refrigerator door, or holding it open, lets out the cold air.

Tune your cooling system now

Properly maintained cooling equipment provides improved comfort, runs more efficiently, lowers your energy costs, and lasts longer.

A tune-up provides an opportunity for a licensed HVAC technician to professionally evaluate your cooling system and ensure that it operates efficiently. A professional tune-up can improve unit efficiency by about 10 percent.



Princeton Public Utilities offers our electric customers a \$35 rebate for a professional inspection, cleaning, and tune-up of each air conditioner or air source heat pump between April 1 and September 30.

Visit us on the web, stop by our office at 907 1st Street, or call us at 389-2252 for more information.

**The
Connector**

Princeton Public Utilities

**Compact fluorescents efficient,
and we'll help recycle them**

Technology has changed a lot over the years, and that march forward is evident in the common household light bulb.

You still might find a 100- or 75-watt incandescent light bulb on the shelf, but they are no longer manufactured in the United States. Smaller incandescent bulbs are also being phased out. Of the energy consumed by incandescent bulbs, 10 percent produced light and 90 percent produced heat.

Those numbers have improved with recent models, but they remain inefficient compared to many choices, such as light-emitting diodes, compact fluorescents (CFL) and halogen bulbs.

CFL bulbs are often the consumer's choice today. These bulbs contain a small amount of mercury and must be recycled properly. You can drop these bulbs off for recycling at our office, 907 1st Street, in Princeton.



Receive your bill stamped 'paid' with automatic payment plan

How would you like to receive your utility bills stamped 'paid?' Well, the Princeton Public Utilities Commission will take care of it for you. All we need is for you to sign-up for our automatic bill payment plan. We will work with your bank to pay your bills automatically.



It works like this: We notify the bank of what you owe us monthly. The bank will withdraw that amount out of your account automatically on the 10th of the month. (Bills are due on the 10th.) The money is then automatically deposited into our account.

You receive your regular bill stamped 'paid,' so you have a record of your usage and payment. You also receive your regular record of account transactions from the bank. This service is especially handy for people who go out of town for extended periods of time, aren't able to run errands easily, or are just looking to simplify things come bill-paying time.

It also promises to save a lot of time and manual effort at the utility office. Making

our operation as efficient as possible will help save us all money.

We already have many people participating in this program. Please call us at 389-2252 for more information.

Cool Your Home Efficiently

Princeton Public Utilities wants to help you cool your home efficiently this summer!

Most homes use a central air conditioner system for cooling. When sized properly, a central air conditioner will cool and dehumidify a home to provide a comfortable environment during the summer months.



Central AC systems with higher seasonal energy efficiency ratings (SEER) are more efficient than standard models. Even though high-efficiency cooling equipment can be more expensive to purchase, the cost difference is paid back over time through lower energy bills.

If your central air conditioning unit is more than 12 years old, replacing it with a qualifying energy-efficiency system could cut your cooling costs by 30 percent. Plus, qualifying systems are eligible for a rebate from us—making it even easier for you to save money on your electricity costs.

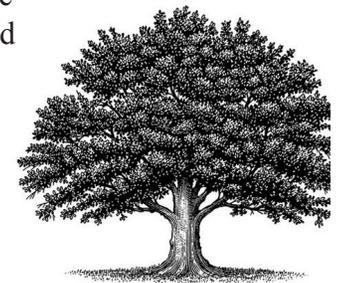
Princeton Public Utilities provides rebates for qualifying central air conditioners, air-

source heat pumps, and ground-source heat pumps. Call us, stop by our office or see the 'Cool Your Home Efficiently' section of our website for rebate applications and performance comparisons. Go to www.saveenergyinprinceton.com

Consider power lines, call us when scheduling tree trimming

For safety, Princeton Public Utilities removes trees that endanger its power lines and equipment. Princeton Public Utilities does not cut trees hanging over buildings or not endangering the power lines; however, the power lines will be dropped at no charge during normal working hours so you or your contractor can cut the tree(s).

Trees that interfere with customer owned service wires (wires to customer's homes) will not normally be trimmed or removed by PPU but again arrangements can be made to have these wires dropped to permit removal of tree(s).



Scheduling of tree cutting/trimming will be done as time permits. For questions or more information please call our office at 389-2252.