

5 Tips To Help Cut Your Electric Bill Year-Round

1 INSTALL SOLAR COOLING & HEATING SYSTEMS

Solar systems quickly pay for themselves because they run more efficiently at a higher temperature compared to traditional cooling and heating systems, saving you energy and money while also helping the environment.

Solar thermal collectors have been used successfully for more than 30 years. Now, they're being combined with modern-day HVAC technology to create optimum efficiency and output. The efficient, low-maintenance evacuated tube collectors produce thermal energy even on cloudy days. When configured as a heat pump system, the solar unit also provides heat in the winter.

2 REGULARLY MAINTAIN YOUR AIR CONDITIONER

In Texas, air conditioners are the biggest consumers of electricity. To reduce your electric bill, have maintenance performed on your heating and cooling system at least twice each year to keep it running efficiently. *Proactively maintaining your air conditioning system extends its useful life* and reduces the chances you'll have bigger, costly repairs.

3 TEST YOUR DUCTWORK

If your ducts are leaking air, your system is working harder than necessary to cool or heat your home. *Duct systems lose an average of 25% of the air that flows through them*, so it's important to have an expert determine if your duct system is leaking.

Did you know that three degrees on your thermostat can raise your electric costs by 20%? Accurate digital thermostats and properly balanced airflow can help you stay comfortable without spending more than necessary.

4 SHIELD YOUR ATTIC WITH R30 INSULATION

Heating and cooling costs have the biggest impact on your electric bill, making up 65% of your bill. One of most cost-effective changes is adding R30 insulation in your attic. With its 11 inches of fiberglass, this insulation grade effectively blocks external temperatures.

5 SET YOUR HOT WATER HEATER TO 120°

On average, heating your water accounts for 18% of your electric bill. To help minimize its impact on your energy costs, make sure it's set to 120 degrees. Higher temperatures are unnecessary and will drive costs up significantly. *According to the U.S. Department of Energy*, a water heater set at 140 degrees "can waste anywhere from \$36 to \$61 annually in standby heat losses and more than \$400 in demand losses."

Need help to reduce your heating and cooling costs? Schedule an appointment with your local expert today.

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