

Precision - How Can You Save Energy with Air Conditioning in Lombard, IL?

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When summer rears its head in the Midwest, going without air conditioning can be impossible. Crank it up! But, don't crank your utility bills up with your AC usage. Here are a few ideas for how you can save energy with air conditioning in Lombard, IL.

Are you cooling off your basement, attic or other areas of your home that aren't being used regularly or simply don't require cooling? Try closing off some of those vents and you'll see a noticeable difference in your electricity usage and bill. Basements are usually cooler than the rest of the house, so try closing those vents and see if the coolness of your basement is already adequate.

Try turning off lights that aren't absolutely necessary. Sunshine and longer days make lights a bit less necessary in the summer months. All those extra lights heat your rooms as well, so doing without them increases the efficiency of your air conditioning and the comfort of your rooms.

Another good idea is to only run the AC when people are actually in your home. While your family is at work or school and the house is empty, don't pay to cool down the walls and furniture. Try an easy-to-use programmable thermostat.

Consider replacing an outdated air conditioner with a new, more energy-efficient model. The energy savings will pay for the newer unit quickly. A newer model can cut your energy costs by as much as 40% and can increase the resale value of your home.

Simple, routine maintenance is another good way to keep your energy costs down. Regularly changing the filter, maintaining adequate coolant levels and ensuring safe electrical outlets are good habits to form. If you have window units, make sure they aren't impeded by shades or drapery and that they use properly grounded outlets. If you have central AC, make sure it's not hampered by trees, shrubbery or other outside debris.

All these things can help you save energy while still enjoying your air conditioning in Lombard, IL. Call us today for all your AC service, installation and maintenance needs.

A poorly maintained air conditioner uses 10 to 30 percent more energy and has a shorter life. Central AC compressors last on average about 10 to 12 years. Proper maintenance can extend that to 20 years. It's important to have a professional tune, clean and check controls and refrigerant levels on your central AC system every two to three years. If your refrigerant needs recharging, this correction can improve efficiency by 20 percent. It's also important to perform DIY maintenance each year. Several contractors told us that 90 percent of air-conditioner failures are caused by a lack of maintenance.

COST: Professionally cleaning and servicing a central air conditioner costs \$100 to \$250.

PAYBACK: This depends on the age of the unit and how dirty it is. If you haven't had your AC unit serviced in several years, having a professional do a thorough tune-up could pay for itself in less than a year and extend the life of your unit.