

Arizona Lifestyle

High Country – July / August 2005

APS
THE POWER TO MAKE IT HAPPEN®

Energy Star appliances

To conserve energy and help the environment always purchase energy efficient products bearing the Energy Star insignia. Energy Star is a federal government-backed program helping businesses and individuals protect the environment through superior energy efficiency in products ranging from business equipment to appliances to new homes. Energy Star products can save consumers about a third on their energy bill and bring a similar savings of greenhouse gas emissions, without sacrificing features, style or comfort.

So whether it's a computer, an air conditioner or a new home you're shopping for, look for the Energy Star and conserve energy, save money and help the environment. For more information on Energy Star, visit energystar.gov.



Summer energy-saving tips

Gas costs have increased in 2005, which will impact the recently approved Power Supply Adjustor (PSA). By working together to conserve energy, we can minimize the impact of the PSA.

So, keep these tips in mind to stay cool, save money and conserve energy this summer:

- Set your thermostat a few degrees higher. For every degree you raise your thermostat, you can save two to three percent on the air conditioning portion of your energy bill.
- Use fans along with your air conditioner. They can help reduce energy costs by circulating the cool air. Ceiling fans also can allow for air conditioners to be set three to four degrees higher with minimal change in comfort.
- Repair any broken windows or gaps that can allow cool air to escape. Seal gaps in your home's doors and windows.
- Cover windows with awnings, sunscreens or reflective film and keep drapes, blinds or shades closed during the day to keep out unwanted heat.
- Plant vegetation adjacent to windows — particularly on the west side of the home. This will help reduce heat by blocking the sun's rays.
- Do heat-producing chores such as laundry, cooking and dishwashing during the cooler times of the day. These tasks produce heat, which requires the air conditioner to work harder.

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Energy
Tip

Ceiling fans are a great energy-saving way to stay cool. While ceiling fans don't actually lower the temperature, they help you feel cooler by circulating the air. By using ceiling fans you can set your thermostat three to four degrees higher and still stay cool. The amount of electricity a ceiling fan uses is significantly less than the electricity your air conditioner uses to keep your house three to four degrees cooler.

We're available 7-days-a-week, 24-hours-a-day, aps.com
Metro Phoenix area: 602-371-7171 — Other areas: 800-253-9405



Lineman Bob's Safety Corner

Use caution with ladders and pool equipment

When using or storing metal ladders or metal-handled pool skimmers, brushes and vacuums, be careful to avoid contact between these tools and electrical wires, outlets or meters.

These tools are made of aluminum and other lightweight metals that are excellent conductors of electricity. The length of these ladders and pool poles mean you need to be extra careful to avoid contact with overhead power lines and other electrical devices. Even if your utilities are underground, use caution when storing these tools. A ladder or pole falling onto an electrical meter could cause severe burns, electrocution and death.

A good rule of thumb when working with these tools is to keep the distance between you and electrical lines, meters and outlets at least two times the length of the ladder or pole. Treat all electric lines outlets and equipment with caution and respect. Even low-voltage electric lines and cords can be hazardous if damaged or improperly handled.

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- Avoid using the oven as much as possible. Summer is the time for cookouts.
- Turn off electronic equipment such as computers and televisions when not in use.
- Take the APS Energy Survey on aps.com. In as little as 10 minutes, this online tool will help you evaluate your home and learn where you can reduce energy use.

For more energy-saving tips or information on the PSA and current gas prices, visit aps.com.

Save with the APS Energy Survey

Reducing your home's energy use is as easy as a click of the mouse with the APS Energy Survey at aps.com. In as little as 10 minutes, this online tool will help you evaluate your home and learn where you can reduce energy use. The APS Energy Survey analyzes your

energy use and provides helpful suggestions on how to make your home more energy efficient. You can even compare your energy usage to homes of similar size.

Access this free tool by visiting aps.com and selecting "Energy Survey" in the residential section.

Have a friend back you up with the APS Safety Net Program

If you or someone you know is elderly or travels frequently and is concerned about having their electricity turned off due to missed payments, you need to look into the APS Safety Net program. As an APS customer, you can authorize a third party to receive written notification when your APS service is in danger of being shut off for non-payment.

Your Safety Net partner would receive a copy of the disconnect notice, but would not be able to discuss your account or be held financially responsible. This program simply allows the Safety Net partner to intervene by contacting you, the customer of record, to avoid a possible service disconnect.

For a Safety Net Program application, call APS at 602-371-7171 or 1-800-253-9405.