

# Keep Cool AND Energy Efficient!

- Trim back foliage at least two feet around the air conditioner, and remove debris from nearby
- Replace your air conditioner filter each month when the a/c is in use
- Close windows and doors to increase efficiency while your a/c is running
- Use ceiling fans to make use of the wind chill effect while you are home; set them to spin clockwise during the summer months to push the air down
- Open your windows at night to let in cooler air
- Close curtains and blinds to keep sunlight out on hot days
- Dress in loose, lightweight clothing
- Set your thermostat as high as is comfortable when you are home; the smaller the difference between the thermostat and the outside temperature, the less energy used
- Check for cracks and gaps around windows and doors, and seal them with caulk and weather stripping

# Change Habits to BEAT THE PEAK

You can beat the peak (and save money!) by decreasing your power use when energy demand and prices are at their highest. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

**Laundry for Less:** Full loads mean fewer cycles; and washers and dryers run in the late evenings add less heat and humidity to the home. Energy can cost less outside of peak hours.

**Cool Off/Calm Down:** Turn off unnecessary lighting and electronics that generate heat; resist the urge to turn down the thermostat; and remember, lower fan settings use less energy.

**Intramural Competition:** Online gaming with each active player using their own computer, display, gaming console, and Internet connection can be pricey. Play each other at home on one screen and save.

**Countertop Convenience:** Range or oven cooking can really warm up a kitchen. Microwaves, convection ovens, induction cooktops, a Crockpot, and toaster ovens put more cooking heat where you need it.

Be sure to check our website at [butlerrec.coop](http://butlerrec.coop) for the PEAK MONITOR to let you know if our system is normal (green), approaching peak (yellow), or at peak (red).

