

PSE&G Offers Tips for your Air Conditioner's Spring Debut

Also, 10 Easy and Inexpensive Ways to Save on Electric Bills

Is air conditioning in your forecast? With hot weather on the way, Public Service Electric and Gas Co. (PSE&G), New Jersey's largest utility, offers the following steps to ensure your air conditioner is ready for its spring debut.

- Clear your outdoor unit of grass, dirt and leaves.
- Make sure there is nothing obstructing airflow into the unit.
- Replace or clean your air filters once a month, or as directed by the manufacturer.
- Check that all vents in your home are fully open and not blocked by furniture or drapes.
- To keep a safe, high performing and efficient system, have it checked regularly by a qualified air conditioning and heating contractor.

Air conditioning can also lead to more usage and higher electric bills. Customers can save energy and money this summer by following a few easy and inexpensive tips.

1. Seal holes and cracks around doors and windows with insulation or weather-stripping.
2. Don't cool an empty house. Set your thermostat higher when you are away.
3. Don't cool unused rooms. Close the vents and shut the door.
4. Ceiling fans cool fast and cost less than air conditioning.
5. Operate appliances in the morning or evening when it is cooler outside.
6. When washing dishes or clothes, run full loads.
7. Wash laundry in cold water.
8. Close blinds and draperies facing the sun to keep out the sun's heat.
9. Replace air filters monthly. Dirty filters make your air conditioner work harder.
10. Use a microwave or crockpot instead of the oven. They won't heat the house.