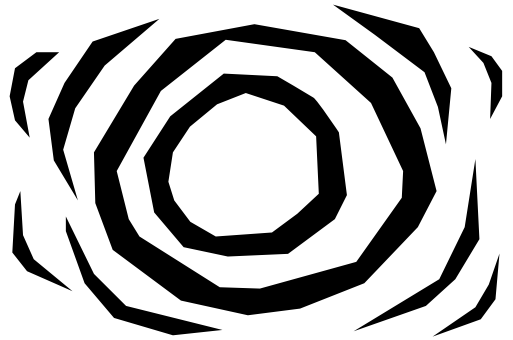


Brochure provided courtesy of:



Easy Steps to a Bright Summer at Home

Energy is in the news once again. There is not enough of it, and it costs too much!

Part of the *"Watt's" Going On, California?*
Energy Conservation Program sponsored by:

The League of California Cities

California State Association of Counties

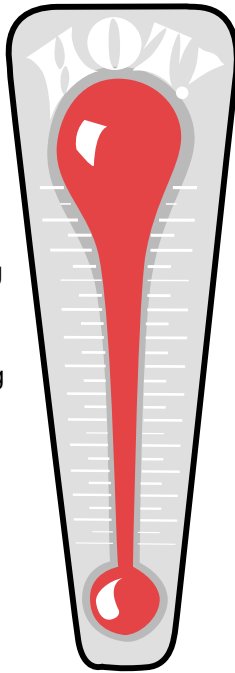
Local Government Commission

California Park & Recreation Society



There are many easy ways to conserve energy all day, but it's especially important to avoid high energy use during the peak hours — generally late afternoon and evening, when people come home from work and start turning on appliances.

Here are some things you can do to cut your costs while helping our community and the state reduce the threat of rotating blackouts this summer. Many cost you nothing or very little. For others, there are programs to help you cover the cost.



Energy-Saving Tips

- **Set your thermostat to 78°F** or higher during the summer.
Savings: 10 – 20% of cooling costs.
 - **Set your thermostat at 85°F or higher when you leave your home for more than four hours.**
Savings: 5 – 12% of cooling costs. Close interior drapes and shades during the day.
 - **Stop the sun before it hits you!** Use exterior shading devices like awnings, bamboo screens and shade screens (instead of bug screens), or deciduous plants to shade your home and windows (especially south, west and east facing) from the sun. Small shrubs can block heat reflected from patios and pavement. And planting vines over southern windows can reduce the effect of the sun's heat.
Savings: up to 8% of cooling costs.
 - **Cool naturally!** Take advantage of breezy days and nights by opening doors and windows and turning off your cooling system. (But don't forget security measures; stay safe!)
- **Turn off** lights when you leave a room. Turn off your TV, computer and other electronic devices when they're not in use.
 - **Prepare cool meals** such as salads and sandwiches. Barbecue outdoors, instead of using the oven or range.
 - **Plan ahead so that clothes and dishes are washed in the late evening.** Avoid using large quantities of water during peak times, when it costs your local water utility more to run the water pumps.
 - **Switch pool filters, sweeper operations and spa filters to off-peak hours.** Replace old equipment with more efficient equipment.

For a more complete list, check out the websites below or call the California Energy Commission, (916) 654-4989, or the State Department of General Services, (916) 445-3441.

www.flexyourpower.ca.gov

California Department of General Services, energy information

www.caiso.com

California Independent System Operator

www.ladwp.com

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

www.pge.com Pacific Gas and Electric

www.smud.org

Sacramento Municipal Utilities District

www.sdge.com

San Diego Gas and Electric

www.sce.com

Southern California Edison

www.consumerenergycenter.org

Consumer Energy Center, California Energy Commission

www.energy.ca.gov/education

Energy Quest, California Energy Commission