

Energy Conservation Tips for Your Facility

With the summer months approaching, now is the time to take preventive steps to reduce the heat's inevitable impact on your energy usage and utility bill. In this issue of eCurrentLines, we suggest ways of reducing the impact of the summer heat on your commercial or industrial facility's electric bill.



Reduce summer heat gain through windows and doors

- Install white blinds, window shades or drapes to reflect heat away from the facility.
- Close blinds and drapes on south, east and west facing windows during direct sun hours. Progress Energy offers rebates for installing certain solar films on east and west facing windows.
- Caulk and weather-strip around windows and doors.



Have HVAC equipment serviced before summer

- Check should include cleaning the condensing unit coils, checking the amp draw of the compressor, oiling the fan motors, checking that belts are well adjusted, checking the system operating pressures and temperatures against the manufacturer's specifications and ensuring proper refrigerant level.
- Clean and replace air conditioning filters frequently.

Reduce air conditioning run hours

- Use an energy management system or programmable thermostat to raise the temperature during times your facility is closed or unoccupied.
- Avoid placing copiers, drink machines or any device that gives off heat near your air conditioning thermostat. The heat from these devices will cause the air conditioner to run longer.
- Repair leaking ducts.
- Add insulation around air conditioning ducts in unconditioned spaces such as attics, warehouses and garages.

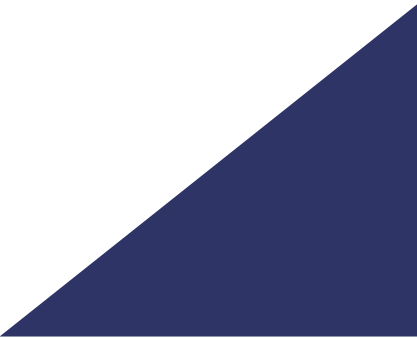
Consider energy-efficient upgrades

A new energy-efficient air conditioning system can easily pay for itself in electricity savings, improved reliability and lower maintenance cost in a short period of time. Building energy consumption can be significantly reduced through cooling system improvements (such as use of variable-speed drives on fans and pumps, improved cooling towers and improved controls) and cooling load reductions (such as lighting retrofits and better insulation).

When retrofitting an old air conditioner with a new unit, it's important to size the unit correctly. If your facility has undergone an energy-efficient lighting retrofit (which produces less heat), had a roof replacement with a greater thermal barrier or permanently removed heat generating equipment from the conditioned space, then attention should be given to reducing the tonnage required to condition the space. A properly sized unit cools air and removes humidity more effectively and costs less to operate.

Reduce heat build-up

- Turn off lights in unoccupied spaces to reduce heat, lighting burn-hours and energy consumption.
- Replace incandescent lamps with compact fluorescent lamps.



Environmental benefits of conservation efforts

Implementing the tips listed above will not only reduce energy consumption and costs, but also positively impact the environment. Reducing your demand for electricity results in a lower demand for power generation, a lower demand for the fossil fuels needed to generate electricity and a decrease in power plant emissions – all of which benefits our environment.

Conservation also entails extending the life of equipment to minimize waste through the reuse or recycling of items such as office paper, used oil, batteries, metal scraps and lighting wastes. Your conservation efforts will not only save you money, you will also be doing your part to assist in saving the environment.

Progress Energy conservation rebates

Progress Energy's energy conservation incentives include rebates for:

- High efficiency heating and air conditioning system replacement on existing facilities as well as installation on new construction
- Duct sealing
- Insulation upgrade
- Motor replacement
- Window tinting

For more information on Progress Energy rebates and qualifying requirements, visit our Web site by [clicking here](#).

For more information about making your business more energy efficient, contact your Progress Energy account executive. This article and other information pertinent to our commercial, industrial and governmental customers are posted on our Web site. To visit, [click here](#).

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