UNDERSTANDING YOUR **AIR CONDITIONING** AND HOW TO **COOL EFFICIENTLY**

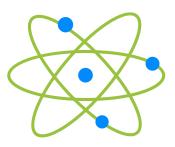
DID YOU KNOW?



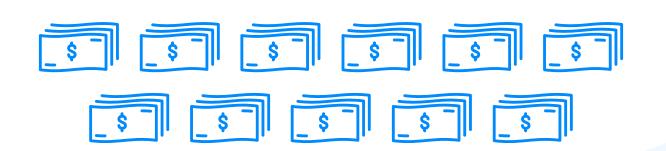
of an average household's energy is used for cooling



2/3 of all U.S. homes have air conditioners



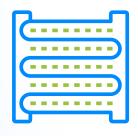
117 million metric tons of CO2 are released yearly due to ACs



IT COSTS HOUSEHOLDS \$11B TO COOL THEIR HOMES EVERY YEAR

HOW DOES AN AIR CONDITIONER WORK?

Air conditioners take heat from inside your home and put it outside where it's warm.







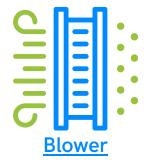
<u>Evaporator</u> Using refrigerant, cooling coils take heat and humidity out of the air

Blower A blower circulates air over the evaporator, distributing the cool air

Condenser Hot coils release the heat that was collected into the outside warm air



<u>Compressor</u> A pump moves refrigerant between the evaporator & condenser to cool the air



A filter removes particles from the air to improve air quality and AC performance



A fan blows air over the condenser in order to distribute the heat outside

WHAT IS SEER?

A SEER rating is an evaluation of your cooling system's average performance over a full year period. The higher your Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio, the better it is for your wallet and the planet.

Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio

Air conditioners on the market today are manufactured with a SEER rating from 13-26 and cannot drop below that mark according to regulations in place from the U.S. Department of Energy.

26.0 13.0 **Most Efficient** Least Efficient

ENERGY SAVING COOLING TIPS



Switch to a high efficiency air conditioner

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Regularly clean and replace AC air filter

17.7











Install a programmable or smart thermostat

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Use a ceiling fan while you're in the room

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Upgrade insulation for all-season savings



Air seal your home to control air leakage

Avoid using an oven which can heat your home

Use curtains to block the sun during the day

Use your bathroom fan to remove humidity







WHAT IS A COOLING CONSULTATION?

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HomeWorks Energy offers a free Cooling Consultation to Massachusetts residents who want to understand the energy efficiency of their current cooling system and learn about upgrades and maintenance recommendations that will save money and energy.

A Home Energy Specialist will also show you how to access big cooling system rebates and 0% financing on upgrades. The consultation is no cost

and no obligation; it's just a way for us to keep our neighbors informed!



RESOURCES

https://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-saver-101-infographic-home-cooling https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/home-cooling-systems/air-conditioning