

STAY COOL THIS SUMMER!



Ways to keep cool without air conditioning

Not all properties need air conditioning to stay comfortable during the warm summer months. Here are a few tips to cool your home:



Take advantage of windows to aid natural ventilation and create airflow throughout your home.



Make sure that your attic is ventilated and add insulation to prevent it from getting too hot in the first place. The temperature in your attic can reach 150 degrees on a hot summer day, a situation that if left unchecked can drive up cooling costs by as much as 40 percent.¹



Install ceiling fans to keep air circulating. Ceiling fans can make temperatures feel up to eight degrees cooler. ENERGY STAR® rated ceiling fans offer the best efficiency ratings.²



Plant more trees. Summer temperatures can be three to six degrees cooler in tree-shaded neighborhoods than in areas without trees.³



When it's time to replace your roof, consider installing a white roof or lighter-color shingles to help reflect heat away.



Use a whole house fan, which can substitute for an air conditioner most of the year in our climate. The whole house fan uses very little electricity to pull air in from open windows and exhaust it through the attic and roof. It provides good attic ventilation in addition to whole house cooling.⁴



Draw your shades or blinds to keep rooms cooler during the day.

¹<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/heat-and-cool/home-cooling-systems/cooling-whole-house-fan>

²<http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/home/g2359/energy-saving-tips/?slide=6>

³Landscaping for Energy Efficiency, Dep't of Energy, GO-10095-046, 2-3 (Apr. 1995).

⁴<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/heat-and-cool/home-cooling-systems/cooling-whole-house-fan>

Take advantage of free swamp coolers

Eligible Pueblo County households can receive free swamp cooler (including installation).

How do I qualify?

- ✓ Must be a Black Hills Energy electric customer.
- ✓ Must income qualify using the 80% area median income guidelines.

No cost swamp cooler details

- ✓ Must have a window suitable for a window mount evaporative cooler.
- ✓ Must have a hose bib within 50 ft. of window location.
- ✓ Must have a 110-volt electrical outlet within 10 ft. of the window.
- ✓ Must now currently own a working, window-mount evaporative cooler or air conditioning unit.
- ✓ Limit 1 unit per household.



For more information please contact Pueblo County Department of Human Services.



719-583-6110



2631 E. 4th Street Pueblo, CO 81001

Sign up for a free, no contact virtual home energy assessment with Black Hills Energy and receive

- ✓ A free home energy kit with easy-to-install LED bulbs, faucet aerators, showerheads, door weatherstripping and more.
- ✓ \$50 cash back when you schedule your online appointment.
- ✓ \$50 cash back when you complete your assessment and install a qualifying energy upgrade.

For more information and to schedule your free online appointment contact our Virtual Assessment team.



888-567-0799



BHEAudit@a-tec.com



<https://bit.ly/3gT0hIZ>





Maximize your cooling investment

If you've decided to replace or install new cooling equipment, consider the following tips and options:

- ✓ Use AC in your most needed room, like your bedroom, to cut down on electric use.
- ✓ Run ceiling fans counter-clockwise in the summer to circulate cooler, conditioned air.
- ✓ Keep interior doors open to help air circulate more freely and maintain constant cooling levels.
- ✓ Buy a programmable or smart thermostat. They can help you save on energy costs by adjusting the temperature when you're at work, away, or asleep. Proper use of a programmable thermostat can cut your energy bills by almost \$180 per year.¹
- ✓ Have your air conditioner coils cleaned to improve efficiency and help save energy.
- ✓ Run your whole house fan instead of an air conditioning unit whenever the temperature outside is cooler than 79 degrees. Running the fan all night and shutting the doors and windows in the morning will keep the house cool until mid to late afternoon.
- ✓ Position trees and shrubs to shade your AC unit, helping it run up to 10% more efficiently.²
- ✓ You could be wasting up to 20% of the energy used to heat and cool your home through air leakage and poor insulation. Invest in improvements to insulation and air sealing to reduce energy wasted.

Evaporative Cooling

An evaporative cooler is up to 75% more efficient than a traditional central air conditioner. Additionally, it can cool your home within 15 minutes and help reduce the effects of our dry climate. This is a great choice for Pueblo County residents that want to stay cool and pay less on cooling costs.

Air Conditioning

Air conditioning options include room air conditioners, central air conditioners, or ductless, mini-split systems. The options that will work best for your home depend on the size and features of your home. Regardless of which air conditioning option you select, make sure to install a high-efficiency model to keep your energy use to a minimum.

¹<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/home/g2359/energy-saving-tips/?slide=4>

²Landscaping for Energy Efficiency, Dep't of Energy, GO-10095-046 (Apr. 1995), <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/doer/publications/landscapeee.pdf>

Available Utility Rebates

Black Hills Energy Electricity Customers

- Rebate of \$75 for installing an ENERGY STAR certified smart thermostat.
- Rebates for new high efficiency cooling equipment (\$100 to \$800 depending on equipment type and efficiency rating).
- Rebates for early retirement of inefficient cooling equipment (\$400 to \$850 depending on equipment type and efficiency rating).



blackhillsenergy.com/efficiency-and-savings/residential-rebates/colorado-electric-residential-rebates

San Isabel Electric Association Electricity Customers

- Rebates for new ENERGY STAR split systems (rebates range from \$150 to \$250 depending on efficiency rating).
- Heat Pump system rebates are available up to \$500, depending on efficiency. All have to be ENERGY STAR rated.
- Free insulation check and insulation rebates up to \$450.
- Receive a free insulation check through Empower.
- Purchase, install, and/or finance a whole house fan through Empower.



Rebates - sieweb.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Rebates2021UpdatedAPRIL2021.pdf



Empower - sieweb.com/empower/

Xcel Energy Natural Gas Customers

- Rebates for insulation and air sealing measures (30% of project cost, up to \$200 for air sealing, \$350 for wall insulation, and \$400 for attic insulation).
- Rebate of \$50 for smart thermostats (can be combined with Black Hills Energy smart thermostat rebate).



co.my.xcelenergy.com/s/residential/home-rebates/insulation-air-sealing



co.my.xcelenergy.com/s/residential/heating-cooling/smart-thermostats

