

May 2008

Buying a new air conditioner?

Making the right choice can save you energy and money

If you plan to replace or install a new central air conditioner or room air conditioner this summer, choosing the right equipment can maximize your comfort and make a big difference in your energy bills.

The following are important tips you should consider:

ENERGY STAR® helps you save.

Products with the federal government's ENERGY STAR® label meet strict energy-efficiency guidelines. ENERGY STAR qualified room air conditioners, for example, use at least 10 percent less energy than standard models. ENERGY STAR qualified central air conditioners are about 14 percent more efficient than standard models.

EnergyGuide labels help you compare usage.

Yellow EnergyGuide labels on air conditioners and other appliances estimate yearly operating costs and compare usage with other air conditioners of the same size. Be sure to check these labels when you shop to make the best decision for your home and budget.

how to get in touch

Customer service:

1-800-342-5775

1-800-DIAL PPL

Automated phone lines are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Customer service

representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf: **1-800-231-7288 TTY**

Write to us at:

Connect

827 Hausman Road

Allentown, PA 18104-9392

Visit us on the Internet at:

www.pplelectric.com



e-power tip

Replacing an old air conditioner with a new, energy-efficient model can save you as much as 50 percent on your cooling bills, according to the federal government.

Properly maintaining your system can prolong its life and keep it running efficiently. That means getting a professional tuneup periodically and cleaning or replacing your unit's filter once a month.

Lastly, installing a programmable thermostat with your unit lets you set the temperature back and use less energy while you are away. Every degree you raise your thermostat could save 2 percent on your cooling costs.

Size matters

A system too big or small for your house or the room being cooled will not operate as efficiently as one that's sized just right. Check with a heating and cooling contractor in your area to determine the proper size.

To find out how much you could save by replacing an old central air conditioner or room air conditioner, see our Energy Calculators online at www.pplelectric.com or call us at 1-800-342-5775.

Keep your family safe from electrical hazards

May is national Electrical Safety Month and a great opportunity to make sure you're doing all you can to stay safe. Consider these simple tips and review them with family members.

Outdoors

- ✓ Know where power lines are at all times, assume every wire is energized and maintain a safe distance of at least 10 feet. Greater distances are needed for wires carrying more than 50,000 volts.
- ✓ Keep kites, antennas and balloons away from power lines. If toys become stuck, don't try to remove them. Call us at 1-800-342-5775 or 1-800-DIAL-PPL.
- ✓ Stay away from downed power lines, as well as people, tree limbs, objects or equipment in contact with wires. Call us immediately at 1-800-342-5775. When prompted, press 1 for "electrical emergency."
- ✓ Call PA One Call at 811 or 1-800-242-1776 at least three days before you dig so that utilities can mark the location of

underground facilities. Consider using white markings to outline the location, route or boundary of the area you plan to dig.

Indoors

- ✓ Take time to make a quick tour and safety check of your home.
- ✓ Don't overload electric outlets with plugs.
- ✓ Make sure your electric cords are in good condition. Do not run them under rugs or near hot appliances.
- ✓ Insert safety caps in outlets when small children are around.
- ✓ Make sure appliances are away from water.
- ✓ Have an electrician install ground-fault circuit interrupters in your kitchen, bathrooms and outdoor receptacles where electric appliances operate in wet or damp conditions. These devices monitor electricity flow and quickly cut power if they detect a problem.

Visit the Electrical Safety World section of our Web site at www.pplelectric.com. It includes tips for parents and activities for children.

Law on utility service protects tenants

Pennsylvania's "Landlord and Tenant Act" on utility service for apartments or mobile home parks has provisions that landlords and tenants should know.

In an apartment building or mobile home park where tenants are responsible for utility bills (electric, gas, water, steam or sewage), Pennsylvania law requires that each apartment or mobile home have a separate meter that must register usage exclusively for that unit.

If a meter records usage for something outside the unit (hall lighting, a furnace, fan, etc.), PPL Electric Utilities is required and authorized to place the account in the owner's name effective the day it becomes

aware of the situation. The owner becomes responsible as of that date for the electric service and for any unpaid balance in the tenant's account. The account must remain in the owner's name until the situation is corrected.

The law protects tenants against the loss of service when the landlord fails to pay a utility bill. To avoid shutoff of utility service, tenants may pay the bill and deduct the amount from the rent.

If you have any questions about the law, or anything else related to your electric service, call PPL Electric Utilities toll-free at 1-800-342-5775 (1-800-DIAL-PPL) weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



www.pplelectric.com



PPL Electric Utilities