

Low Tech Ways To Cut Energy Bills

(NAPSA)—Homeowners steamed up over heating and cooling costs going through the roof may get some relief with these cost-effective tips from the experts.

Ten Low-Cost Ways To Reduce Energy Costs

- 1. Use compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- 2. Install a programmable thermostat and save up to 33 percent on energy bills.
- 3. Plant shade trees and shrubs or place awnings around the south and west sides of your home.
- 4. Run dishwashers and washing machines at their fullest capacity in warm and cold water. Use a clothesline for drying clothes.
- 5. Install a ceiling fan, saving up to 40 percent on summer cooling bills and up to 10 percent on winter heating bills.
- 6. Clean refrigerator coils and set the temperature to the most efficient operating temperatures (35° to 40° F for the refrigerator and 0° to 10° F for the freezer).
- 7. Install low-flow shower-heads, reducing heated water flow. Take shorter showers.
- 8. Wrap water heater (ideally set at 120°F) in an insulating blanket.
- 9. Check cooling and heating ducts for leaks. Inspect window and door openings for drafts.
 - 10. Change air filters monthly. "Consumers can invest in prod-



Some energy-saving products such as ceiling fans require a small investment but offer a large return over time.

ucts like ceiling fans and programmable thermostats and save a tremendous amount on their monthly utility bills," explains Gary Feder, director of market planning and communications of Hunter Fan Co., "Another added benefit is that these and other products such as shade trees help take pressure off the air conditioner which can add to the life of the unit."

It can also help you create an energy-efficient home if you install ENERGY STAR®-labeled appliances.

You can learn more online at www.hunterfan.com.