

ENERGY SAVING IDEAS

Cut Costs With Programmable Thermostats

(NAPS)—There's a hot idea that's helping homeowners keep their cool when they get their energy bill: Programmable thermostats, which take a lot of the work out of keeping costs down.

For most people, the thermostat is simply a device used to keep a consistent temperature throughout the house; the only expectation is maintenance of a comfortable level. However, today's new models can do so much more. Just as there have been advances in other areas of home energy-saving devices, such as air conditioning units, water heaters and refrigerators, there also have been advances in thermostat technology.

You can now set your home's temperature to accommodate your living and working patterns. For example, when you and your family are out of the house, the thermostat can automatically raise or lower the temperature. That way your heating/cooling system isn't continually running to maintain a 72° temperature. You can also set a program to adjust to sleeping patterns; often it is unnecessary to keep the same temperature when you're in bed and not using various rooms throughout the house.

According to Lux Corporation, one of the nation's largest providers of residential and commercial thermostats, programmable models can reduce monthly energy costs by as much as 33 percent. These new thermostats are



Programmable thermostats can be a convenient way to cut heating and cooling costs.

inexpensive, easy to install and can replace most older models. Plus, unlike the unattractive designs of the past, today's thermostats are sleek, neutral in color and work with just about any décor.

The company is also quick to point out to consumers that there's no reason to fear the word "programmable" which, for some electronic devices (e.g., VCRs), can mean a lot of headaches. Lux thermostats have a patented dial that makes programming as simple as a turn of the knob.

For more information on how a programmable thermostat can save you money, contact a heating and air-conditioning specialist. To find a retailer near you that carries energy-saving, programmable thermostats from Lux Corporation, call 1-800-628-4309 or visit www.luxproducts.com.