



801-296-0477

## Six Ways To Lower Your Summer Cooling Costs

We all know electric bills tend to soar in the summer heat, so we're offering a list of ways to help curb your cooling load and save you money:

### 1. Be Aware of Thermostat Settings

Cooling costs can account for 50% or more of your summer electric bill. Set your thermostat at 78 degrees instead of 72 degrees; this can cut a \$100 electric bill by 25%. Installing a programmable thermostat can keep your house at optimal comfort levels and help lower utility bills.

### 2. Keep Your Outdoor Unit Clean

Grass clippings, leaves and other air flow restrictions around your outdoor unit can cause it to work harder, and use more electricity.

### 3. Block Out the Sun

Bright sunlight can increase cooling costs by up to 30%. Keep your blinds/drapes closed to block out 70% of the heat and 99% of harmful UV rays. To block the most solar heat, use window coverings with a reflective or bright-white surface facing outward.

### 4. Change Your Air Filter

A clean air filter allows maximum air flow to be delivered; this improves overall efficiency of the unit and helps prevent coil ice-ups.

### 5. Schedule Annual HVAC Maintenance

Regular maintenance can ensure your system is in good condition and operating in an energy-efficient manner. You may want to consider a Planned Service Agreement — see the coupon in this newsletter for a special offer.

### 6. Consider a New System

If your old system is more than 10 years old, chances are it has a 10 SEER or lower rating. Depending on your usage, it may not take long for a new, high-efficiency unit to pay for itself with energy savings.

We have lots of tips to help chase away the summer heat. Call **High Country HVAC** today at **801-296-0477** to take advantage of our home cooling expertise.

**High Country HVAC**  
"Raising Your Home Comfort to New HEIGHTS"



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Take advantage of these special savings!

### PLANNED SERVICE AGREEMENT

**\$159.99**

**Furnace and Air Conditioning**  
**1 year planned maintenance. Includes a FREE 1-inch filter.**

Offer good through 8/31/13 at High Country HVAC. Please present coupon at time of service or sale.  
Not valid with other offers. If you can't use this coupon, perhaps your neighbor can.

### THE COST OF A NEW LENNOX A/C OR FURNACE

**10%+ OFF**

**Installment by 8/31/13.**

Offer good through 8/31/13 at High Country HVAC. Please present coupon at time of sale.  
Not valid with other offers. If you can't use this coupon, perhaps your neighbor can.

# Changing SEASONS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR THE CUSTOMERS OF HIGH COUNTRY HVAC, INC.



Summer 2013

## Saving Water Hits Home

According to the EPA, the average American family uses more than 300 gallons of water every day, and, on average, approximately 70 percent of that water is used indoors while 30 percent is devoted to outdoor water use. In the hot summer months, or in dry climates, a household's outdoor water use can be as high as 70 percent. With more and more areas experiencing water shortages each year, we all need to do our part to conserve this

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valuable resource. Consider implementing these water-saving measures around your home:

#### In the bathroom:

- ✓ Drop a little food coloring in the toilet tank and if the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.
- ✓ Reduce shower time by just two minutes to save another ten gallons.
- ✓ Replace toilets made before 1993 with new, efficient models.

#### In the kitchen:

- ✓ Make sure your dishwasher is fully loaded when you use it.
- ✓ Scrape your plate instead of rinsing before loading it into the dishwasher.
- ✓ Thaw food in the refrigerator overnight rather than using a running tap of hot water.
- ✓ Plug the sink if washing dishes by hand.

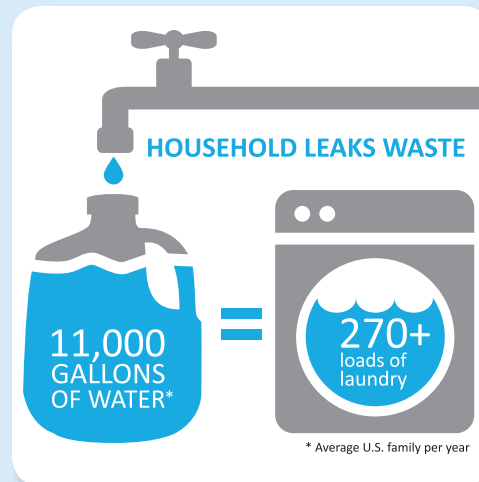
#### In the laundry room:

- ✓ Wash only full loads of laundry, even if your washing machine has an adjustable-load setting.
- ✓ Check your washer's hoses regularly for cracks.
- ✓ Replace an old washing machine with a new, efficient one.

#### For the lawn and garden:

- ✓ Create a water-smart landscape that is both beautiful and efficient to give your home the curb appeal you desire.
- ✓ Timing is everything! Knowing when and how much to water helps keep a healthy landscape.

We can all use reminders on how to use water more efficiently at home. You'll not only save water, but also see the added benefit of lower water bills — now that's a win-win situation for us all. 🌱



#### Fix water leaks:

- 💧 A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year.
- 💧 Ten percent of U.S. homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.
- 💧 Fixing easily corrected leaks can save homeowners more than 10% on their water bills.

## Get To Know MERV

When shopping for an air filter, not only are the dimensions an important factor but also the MERV rating. MERV stands for Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value and is used to identify filtering abilities. The higher the rating, the more efficient the filter is in removing small particles.

How often you change your filter is a big efficiency factor. Interestingly, filters become more efficient at trapping particles as they start to load up with dust and lint — these particles actually increase the filter's ability to hold onto smaller particles. However, the more it loads up, the harder your system has to work, causing stress on the blower motor and compressor.

That's where we come in. We can determine the right filter for your system and recommend how often it should be changed. But remember, seasonal maintenance is the best prevention. 🌍



The higher the MERV rating, the more effective a filter will be in removing particles from indoor air.

**Tip** Lower your cooling costs. Set your thermostat at 78° instead of 72°; this can cut an electric bill by 25%.



## Quiet And Efficient Cooling All Season Long

The XC17 air conditioner from Lennox is the quietest single-stage air conditioner you can buy. That's because its exclusive SilentComfort™ technology reduces the sound of airflow to levels so low, it would take 40 XC17s to equal the sound from one typical air conditioner. You'll be able to relax at home and enjoy the ultimate in quiet, consistent cooling.

With efficiency ratings of up to 18.00 SEER, the XC17 can save you hundreds of dollars a year on your cooling bill, compared to a standard air conditioner. And its high-efficiency components assure a high level of reliability, even under the harshest outdoor conditions.

The XC17 is also icomfort® enabled, which means it can communicate with a Lennox icomfort thermostat. Please contact us for more details on this innovative product.

We offer and install a variety of high-efficiency equipment, so call us when it's time for replacement. 🌍



The XC17 has been designated as one of the Most Efficient ENERGY STAR-qualified products in 2013.

# Earth & Atmosphere

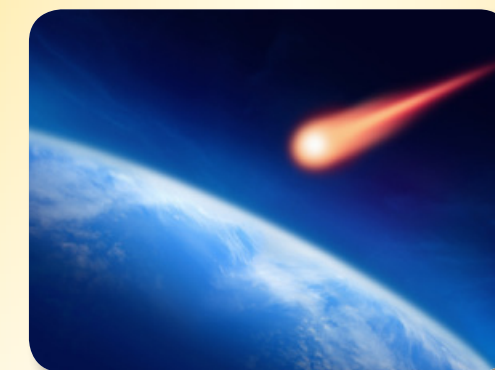
## Meteor Showers

Look up at the night sky this August, and you're likely to see a spectacular display of shooting stars. Thousands of tiny meteoroids, most no larger than a grain of sand, burn up as they streak through the Earth's atmosphere, leaving long colorful trails of light behind them.

When comets pass by the sun, large clouds of particles are created, which spread out to form a meteor stream. As the Earth passes through these meteoroid streams, it causes stunning meteor showers. Late July through mid-August is primetime meteor season, as we travel through the Perseid cloud.

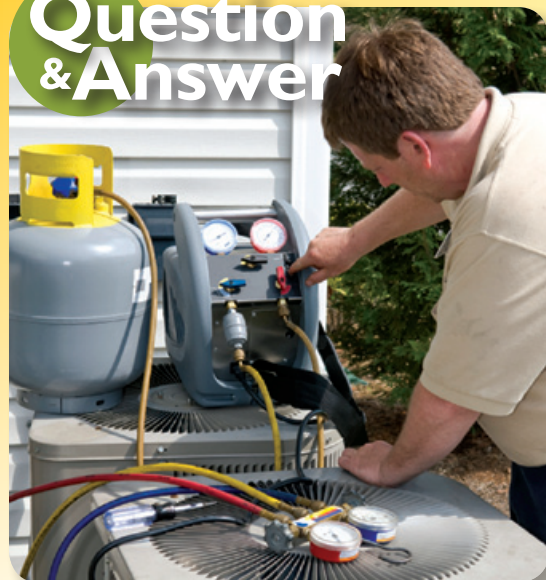
All the meteors in a particular shower travel in parallel paths, so they appear to originate from one point in the sky. They're named for the constellation nearest that point — in this case, Perseus.

The Perseids will peak between midnight and 4:00 a.m. on August 12, when you can expect to see dozens, if not hundreds, of meteors per hour. It's a show you won't want to miss. 🌠



The Chelyabinsk meteor that exploded over Russia on February 15 of this year was the largest known meteor since one in 1908 destroyed a remote forest area of Siberia.

## Question & Answer



### How do I know if my air conditioner needs refrigerant?

There are several ways to determine if your air conditioner is low on refrigerant:

- ▶ Your air conditioner isn't putting out much cold air.
- ▶ If your air conditioner system has a "sight glass" which looks clear and there is no cold air output, the system has lost its charge of refrigerant. If you see bubbles or foam, it means the system is low.
- ▶ Do you see oily streaks radiating outward around the compressor shaft seal, or wet oily areas around hose connections? If so, there is a leak.

Most air conditioning systems leak a little refrigerant over time, but adding more refrigerant won't fix the problem. Call us to repair the leak. Taking care of it early on will ultimately save you a significant amount of money. 🌍