

HANDLING HIGH ENERGY COSTS FROM HEAT

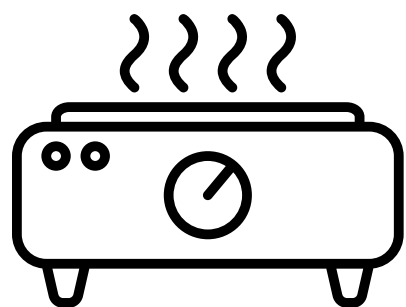
In the City of Atlanta, the Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE) and Smart Growth America (SGA) are providing communities with the tools and resources that they need to help equitably address the impacts of extreme heat and climate change. This infographic comes as a result of this partnership, supported by the Kresge Foundation's Climate Change, Health, and Equity (CCHE) Initiative that works to promote equitable health outcomes for communities.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN SAVE:

Using an air conditioner is the best way to keep cool when temperatures outside soar. However, ACs use a lot of energy and can drive up your electricity bill. This section describes several ways you can help your AC function better and reduce your energy costs. Many of these tips are recommended by Georgia Power, the CDC, and other electricity- and health-related organizations.

Daily Checklist:

- ❑ Ensure windows and doors are closed to keep cooler air inside
- ❑ Cover windows with blinds or curtains to block sunlight
- ❑ Unplug unused electronic devices
- ❑ Run ceiling fans counterclockwise to create a wind chill effect

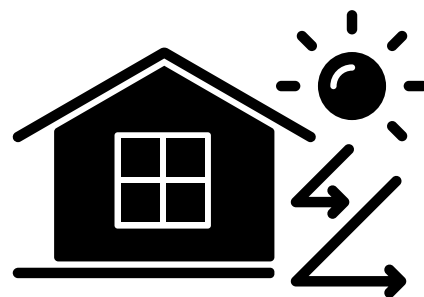


Weekly Checklist:

- ❑ Use cold wash cycles for dishes and laundry
- ❑ Limit use of heat-intensive appliances like dryers, ovens, stoves, etc.
- ❑ Reduce electricity usage during peak hours (2-7 PM on weekdays)
- ❑ Remove furniture, curtains, and other obstructions that block vents
- ❑ Ensure energy-saving settings on your devices are enabled

Seasonal Checklist:

- ❑ Replace air filters to prevent reduced airflow
- ❑ Vacuum air vents to maximize airflow
- ❑ Use high efficiency light bulbs, such as LEDs, that release less heat
- ❑ Use temporary heat reflectors (like aluminum foil-covered cardboard) in your windows
- ❑ Seal gaps and cracks around windows and doors for better insulation



CERTAIN PROGRAMS CAN HELP:

Before extreme heat strikes, you can better prepare your home for handling high temperatures. Many programs offered by local, state, and federal governments, as well as utility companies, provide funding to help make sure your home is able to protect you from the heat. This section describes some of these programs and their benefits. These programs are available to both homeowners and renters, although specific conditions may apply. CCHE, PSE, and SGA are unaffiliated with these programs.

i To use the QR codes shown below, open your smartphone's camera app and direct the camera to the QR code. Ensure that the entire code is scanned by the camera. Hold until a notification appears linking you to the appropriate website.

Utility Bill Assistance

Who Qualifies: Households with income at or below 60% of the Georgia State Median Income (\$53,957 for a household of four)

What's Offered: Up to \$350 in the form of locally issued checks



Learn more about the Georgia Division of Children & Family Service's Regular Home Energy Assistance Program.

Phone Number: (404) 656-2323

Home Energy Efficiency Improvements

Who Qualifies: Households with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (\$60,000 for a household of four)

What's Offered: Free home energy assessment and installation of energy efficiency upgrades



Learn more about Georgia Power's Energy Assistance for Savings & Efficiency Program.

Phone Number: (877) 310-5607



Learn more about the Georgia Environmental Finance Agency's Weatherization Assistance Program.

Phone Number: (770) 382-5421

Energy Efficiency Rebates & Tax Credits

Who Qualifies: Everyone

What's Offered: Up to \$3,200 in federal tax credits per year and up to \$1,950 in rebates from Georgia Power and Atlanta Gas Light after energy efficiency installations



Learn more about Energy Star Rebates.

Learn more about Georgia Power's Home Energy Improvement Program.

Phone Number: +1 (888) 660-5890



Learn more about Atlanta Gas Light's Energy Efficiency Rebates.

Phone Number: (800) 599-3770

i The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and other federal programs offer solutions to protect communities against climate threats, including by lowering energy bills and improving health outcomes. See these resources from the Department of Energy:



The Energy Savings Hub outlines energy efficiency federal tax credits and rebates for homeowners and renters.



Energy Saver describes ways for you to save energy at home, with additional information on tax credits and rebates.