



WE'RE **Prepared**

And it's important
that you are, too.

NC Public Power

Be prepared.

Summer's hot temperatures are here and North Carolina is certainly no stranger to 90+° days. Extreme heat leads to increased electric usage and higher monthly bills. Also, days of extreme heat push electric usage to record levels, making energy conservation even more important. While energy conservation is important at all times, it is critically important when temperatures are high. Below are some ideas to help you decrease your electric usage and your monthly electric bill.

- ❑ Keep your thermostat no lower than 78°. Each additional degree below 78° adds about three percent to your energy costs.
- ❑ To keep air circulating freely, check filters at least every month and change them when needed. Also, clean dust and lint from air outlets.
- ❑ If you use a window air conditioner, seal all cracks and open areas around the unit. Check the filter regularly and clean or replace the filter when needed.
- ❑ Use fans instead of, or in addition to, air conditioning.
- ❑ Weatherstrip your doors, caulk cracks in the door frames and replace worn or ill-fitting thresholds.
- ❑ Consider Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs). CFLs use a fraction of the energy of traditional incandescent light bulbs and last up to ten times as long. Also, CFLs do not release heat like incandescent bulbs. CFLs are available in home improvement stores in the lighting section.
- ❑ Avoid using appliances such as the washing machine, dryer and dishwasher during peak electric usage times (between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.). Day-time hours have the highest demand for electricity, so wait until the evening hours, when temperatures are lower, to run energy-guzzling appliances.

For more information about saving electricity and saving money on your electric utility bill, visit us online at www.ncpublicpower.com.

