

NEWS RELEASE

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Incorporate fans into your cooling plans ***Green Living: Energy-Saving Tips from Santee Cooper***

MONCKS CORNER, S.C. — Summer has wasted little time cranking up the heat, as temperatures through the state have been averaging 5.5 degrees above normal for this time of year. With heat advisories becoming a weekly occurrence, it's important to keep your homes cool to fend off any health problems associated with high temperatures.

One efficient and inexpensive ally in the fight against the swelter of summertime is the ceiling fan, along with table fans, floor fans, and box fans. The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy says using fans in tandem with air conditioning allows you to raise your thermostat about 4 degrees with no reduction in comfort.

"Ceiling fans are considered the most effective because they're the best at circulating air throughout the entire room to create a cooling draft," says Zack Dusenbury, vice president of retail operations. "Just make sure those blades are spinning counter-clockwise in the summer."

Ventilation fans commonly found in the bathroom and kitchen also help remove heat and humidity produced by bathing and cooking as long as they're venting to the outside and not just to the attic.

"It's important to turn off fans when you aren't in the room," Dusenbury says. "Fans work by cooling people, not by reducing the temperature. It's a waste of electricity to run a fan when no one is around to benefit from its draft."

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