



NEWS RELEASE

# Dominion Energy Offers Tips to Manage Summer Bills as Temperatures Soar

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CAYCE, S.C. (Aug. 14, 2026) – With potentially record-breaking high temperatures across the Palmetto State today and into next week, Dominion Energy is offering a few practical tips to beat the heat and save energy as air conditioning systems work around the clock to keep homes comfortable.

"Customers may be surprised to see their bill increase even when they haven't adjusted their thermostat or changed their daily routines," said Gerald Freeman, program manager of Dominion Energy South Carolina's Home Energy Checkup program. "Any setting below 78 when outdoor temperatures are in the triple digits will cause your HVAC system to work harder just to keep up. We want to make sure customers know what they can do to manage their energy usage as we approach the hottest days of the summer so far."

Follow these five tips for conserving energy this summer, and visit [DominionEnergy.com/Save](https://www.dominionenergy.com/save) for more energy-saving tips:

Adjust thermostats to 78 degrees or higher when temperatures rise. For comfort and efficiency, adjust the thermostat gradually – just one to two degrees at a time. Set it even higher while away from home. Extreme outdoor temperatures can increase the energy an HVAC system uses even if the thermostat setting is not changed. When it's hotter outside, the system has to work longer and harder to maintain the same indoor temperature, which can increase energy use and monthly bills.

Use fans to help cool the house. Using a ceiling, box or oscillating fan while increasing the thermostat can lower air conditioning costs up to 14% over the course of the cooling season.

Check and replace air filters regularly. Also, check ductwork for leaks and tears.

Adjust drapes and blinds according to the time of day. This will keep out the sun's natural warmth during the day. Caulk, seal, and weather strip around all seams, cracks and openings – especially exterior doors and windows. Also, replace old weather stripping around doors.

While energy-saving measures can help reduce energy use and manage bills, Dominion Energy understands some customers may need additional assistance finding options that best fit their budget and needs. Customers can conveniently access many assistance options 24/7 through their online account or Dominion Energy's mobile app. Options include payment plans, budget billing and payment assistance.

In addition to short- and long-term payment plans, energy assistance is offered through Dominion Energy's EnergyShare program, funded by company contributions and donations from customers and employees. Additional payment assistance is also offered through state and federal programs like the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). More information is available at [DominionEnergy.com/AssistanceSC](https://www.dominionenergy.com/AssistanceSC).

#### About Dominion Energy

Dominion Energy (NYSE: **D**), headquartered in Richmond, Va., provides regulated electricity service to **3.6 million** homes and businesses in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, and regulated natural gas service to 500,000 customers in South Carolina. The company is one of the nation's leading developers and operators of regulated **offshore wind** and **solar** power and the **largest producer of carbon-free electricity in New England**. The company's mission is to provide the **reliable, affordable, and increasingly clean energy** that powers its customers every day. Please visit [DominionEnergy.com](https://www.dominionenergy.com) to learn more.