## Eco-Friendly Ways to Save Energy This Summer

Written by Written by Stephanie Zucker Sunday, 31 July 2011 16:36 - Last Updated Thursday, 15 September 2011 09:12



Arizona is known for its hot summers, and when temperatures rise, so do energy costs. However, there are simple ways to lower these energy costs. Maracay Homes provides a few tips for home owners to lower their energy bills while keeping cool in the extreme heat. Also, in addition to lowering your energy costs, these tips are environmentally friendly.



## Use less energy.

- Buy a new energy-efficient refrigerator and get rid of your old one. This can help you save more than \$150 per year, as the refrigerator is one of the appliances that uses the most energy.
- Watch your air conditioning. Keeping the thermostat at 78°F will save you a lot of energy and money, particularly in hot weather.
- Keep your water heater's temperature on the warm setting -- 120°F. With each 10-degree decrease in the water temperature, you can save up to five percent in energy costs.
- Manage your energy usage better while you're out of town. Be sure to turn off lights, adjust your water pump and water heater, and raise the temperature slightly in your refrigerator to conserve energy.



## Use water wisely.

- Consider installing a new low-flow shower head, repair your broken sprinklers and fix leaks.
- Instead of using the hose to clean your driveway, use a broom.
- When you're brushing your teeth, make sure to turn off the faucet.

These eco-friendly techniques can help save more than 80 gallons of water per day and will lower your energy costs.