



TIDINGS

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# ENERGY MYTH



BEACHES | ENERGY  
SERVICES

*Ride the Green Wave*

## ENERGY MYTH #5:

Set your air-conditioner fan to ON at the thermostat to save money and increase comfort.

Think again. In the ON position, the fan runs continuously—even when the system is not cooling (or heating). Constant running uses more electricity. It can also add humidity to your home, costing even more. In Florida's climate, the AUTO setting is recommended to lower energy consumption and maintain comfort within your home. The fan will turn on only when the system produces conditioned air. Some newer systems even come with a variable speed fan for better efficiency. Ask a professional for advice.





## Tidings Tips: Use the Breezes.

Instead of running your air conditioner fan 24/7 (see cover), think about moving air in a less costly way.

- A ceiling fan makes skin feel cooler and allows you to set the thermostat higher. Remember: Turn off fans when you leave a room.
- Take advantage of May's mild, dry days. When possible, open windows and sliding doors for breezes. Fans will help pull in cooler outside air.
- Dry some laundry on a line or rack. You'll save clothes-dryer energy, with a bonus of less heat in the house.

### Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

	May	June
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$73.57	\$73.57
Power cost adjustment	\$59.84	\$59.84
Total	\$137.91	\$137.91

## How's Your Hurricane Plan?

If you don't have one, you should. Being prepared before June 1, the start of hurricane season, is a giant safety step for your family and pets. Go to **www.beachesenergy.com** for quick, comprehensive hurricane information. (No Internet access? Call us at 247-6241.) At the home page, click on Hurricane Emergency Information for:

- checklists of supplies, tools, and documents you should safeguard
- evacuation routes, shelters (pet-friendly too), and re-entry procedures

We will also telephone customers about emergency evacuation through the First Call Emergency System Notification System.

Register your land line or cell phone through the link at our site, or call 1-866-484-3264. Customers with disabilities or special needs for evacuation should register with the county. In Duval County, call 904-630-2473; in St. Johns County, call 904-824-5550.



## Online or House Call? It's Your Energy Audit Choice.

Knowledge is power. And knowledge about your household's power use is the power to save money. Residential energy audits through Beaches Energy Services are free.

One option is an in-home visit from an energy auditor. The thorough energy analysis focuses on your habits, appliances, and house framework. Another option is a do-it-yourself audit through Energy Depot at [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com). Step-by-step instructions give you a personal energy profile. Both audits result in specific energy-saving recommendations, most of them simple.

Call us at 904-247-6241 to discuss and schedule an audit, or explore Energy Depot's many features online. You may want to do both!