



TIDINGS

in this issue

Remember This Number!

Tidings Tips: Hot Weather Hints

# ENERGY MYTH



BEACHES | ENERGY  
SERVICES

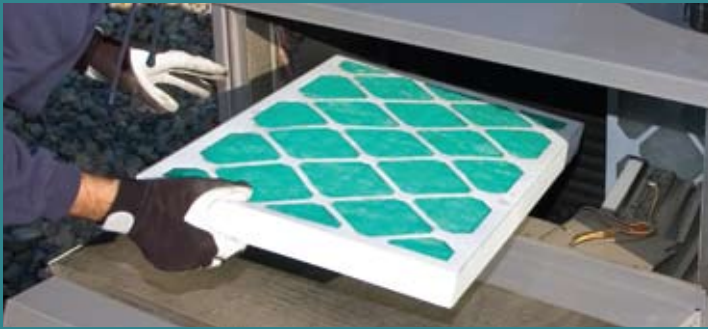
*Ride the Green Wave*

## ENERGY MYTH #7:

Cooling your home after the AC has been off causes your AC to run harder and cost more.

This myth hangs on tenaciously, though it's been proven false. You will definitely save energy and money—and reduce pollution—by turning off your air conditioner or setting the thermostat higher when you're away from home. The AC system does not work any harder to cool when the house temperature is high. The bottom line: It costs more to keep an empty house cool. Turn the page for more facts, not myths, about air conditioning and your energy pocketbook.





## Tidings Tips: Be Summertime Cool

- Check your AC filter monthly and change it regularly.
- Clean the coils of the compressor with a hose (turn off the unit at the breaker).
- Close blinds and drapes during the day.
- Cook with the microwave. It uses much less energy and doesn't add heat to the kitchen.
- Get a timer for your pool pump. Over a summer, you'll save money by running the pump less.
- When you're replacing or buying appliances—from ceiling fans to computers to heating and cooling systems—look for Energy Star models. They're more efficient, with all the features you want.



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

	July	August
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$74.57	\$74.57
Power cost adjustment	\$58.84	\$58.84
Total	\$137.91	\$137.91

## The Magic Number Is 78°

**Air conditioning** is one of the biggest energy users in the South. When you're at home, set the thermostat to 78°. With the breeze of a ceiling or other fan, you can be comfortable even at 80°. For every degree lower than 78°, summer AC costs in Florida can increase up to 9% per degree. That's a leap you don't need to pay for.

**When you leave home** for several hours, set the thermostat up 5–7°. When you come home, don't try "speed cooling." The house won't cool to 78° any faster if you push the setting down to 70°. The AC cools at the same rate whatever the setting. If you forget and leave it at 70 you'll waste your smart savings!

**A programmable thermostat** remembers to change settings for you, automatically. The device pays for itself quickly in lower electric bills, especially with a **Beaches Energy Services rebate of \$25**. Programmable thermostats come with preprogrammed settings for when you're away, at home, and sleeping. They can also easily adjust to your family's typical schedule. Automatic savings: now that's an effortless idea.

For rebate information, call **904-247-6241** or visit **[www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com)**.

