November

Energy Savings & Changing Seasons

Jacket-weather while stepping out, but saving energy while staying in.

One thing is for sure in South Louisiana, during the winter months we get a gumbo of weather conditions. The weather is composed of a little 'dis-n-dat.' Although colder days are few, there are still enough changes to keep us guessing. Let's cover a few things that will make the season better, no matter what Mother Nature decides to serve up.

If you're a regular user of ceiling fans, you may want to think about changing the direction the fan spins. When a cooling effect is desired from your ceiling fan, you want the fan to run in a forward (counter-clockwise) direction in order to force the room's air downward to produce a wind chill effect. However, in the winter ceiling fans should run in the reverse state (clockwise) and at low speed. This spin direction will gently force warm air down but out towards the walls which would reduce a wind chill effect. An exception to this rule is if the fan is mounted on a high vaulted ceiling, the change in the wind chill effect will be insignificant.

Smart thermostats give greater control over both heating and cooling of your home to meet the ever-changing temperature swings in this seasonal period. When connected to your homes Wi-Fi, not only can you control your device remotely through the use of an app, but the thermostat will also access your local weather conditions. Smart thermostats can automatically transition programming for time changes and it is able to control both heating and cooling to maintain a preferred range of temperatures. If you're looking into a simple way of improving the functionality and flexibility of your homes heating and cooling needs, look into investing in one of these.

Changing seasons means changes in how your home uses energy. For customers of LUS, creating an online account is a great way to track the ups and downs of your utility usage vs. temperature swings. Those customers can click on the “My Home” / “Home Profile” tabs and fill in basic information about their home. The more information that is entered, the more helpful the online tools can become when helping guide customers to saving money on their utility expenses. Check out www.lus.org for more information and to sign-up to create your custom LUS online account.