



NIPSCO AIR CONDITIONER (AC) CYCLING PROGRAM

Program Tips

If you are enrolled in the NIPSCO AC Cycling program, you and thousands of others help NIPSCO manage demand and reduce the strain on the electric system during peak periods of usage. When NIPSCO calls on the AC Cycling program, there are some actions you can take to remain comfortable in your home.

General information on the AC Cycling Program:

- During a cycling event, it is normal for a home to gain a few degrees in temperature. Actual temperature increase depends on many variables – insulation in your home, outside temperature and humidity, size of your air conditioner and sunlight coming through windows. The length of the cycling event will also have an effect on increased temperature.
- After the AC cycling period is over, your air conditioner may run a little longer until your home reaches your set thermostat temperature.

Hints to keep your home cool during the hot days of summer, even when cycling is not taking place:

- Postpone activities that can add extra humidity and heat to your indoor.
 - Baking
 - Avoid unnecessary lighting. Change to CFL's – they use much less electricity and produce less heat than standard fluorescent lights.
 - Running the clothes dryer
 - Cooking and canning
- Keep your curtains and blinds fully closed on the sunny side of the house if the forecast calls for hot weather. Air conditioners are usually sized large enough to cool when the curtains are open, but closing them gives you extra cooling capacity since your AC doesn't need to run as often.
- Minimize opening and closing doors to the outside.
- Use your ceiling fan and other air circulating fans. Many new fans are energy efficient because they produce less heat. (If your home is closed for air conditioning, avoid using a large whole house exhaust fan. Use of these fans cause inside, conditioned air to be replaced by outside, humid air.)
- Insulate your air conditioning and heating ducts. Ducts in an attic that are exposed to extreme temperature differences can add approximately 10 to 40 percent to your heating and cooling load and costs.