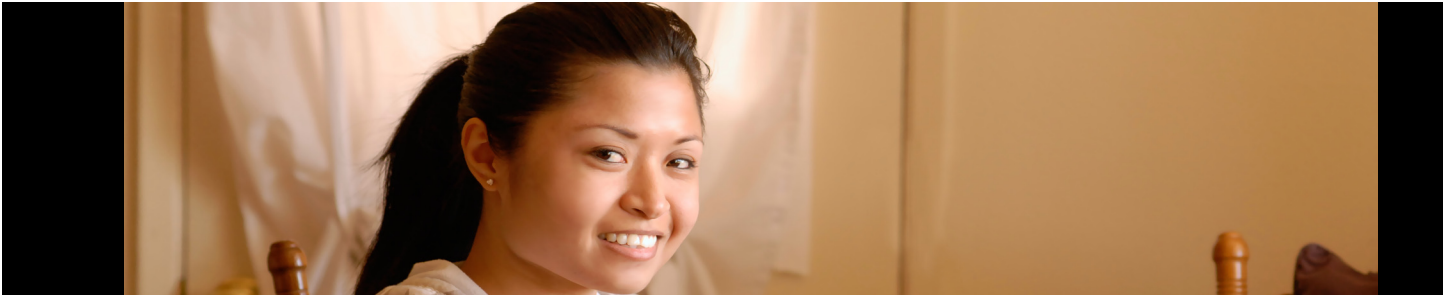


This summer, I'm doing the afternoon shift.



Between the hours of 1 and 7 p.m., I'm shifting my energy use.

Summer is almost here, and it's the time of year when we all need to pitch in and help conserve energy in the Imperial and Coachella valleys. Consider these energy-saving tips as you go about your day:

- *Set your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher*
- *Avoid using major appliances between the peak hours of 1 - 7 p.m.*
- *Consider installing a programmable thermostat — you'll be able to tailor your cooling to your family's schedule*
- *Replace air conditioner filters monthly during the summer and as needed during the rest of the year*
- *Close windows and doors when your cooling system is running*
- *By using a fan, you can raise your thermostat temperature 2-3 degrees, taking the load off your air conditioner or heat pump*
- *Use oscillating or ceiling fans only when the room is occupied*
- *Shelter your pool or spa from wind with landscaping, cabanas or a protective fence — the shelter will help maintain the pool's temperature and prevent flying debris that will force the pump and filter to work harder*
- *Use awnings or solar screens to keep ultra-violet rays from hitting your windows*
- *Check door frames for cracks and make sure you have a good weather stripping seal — repair and replace when necessary*
- *Check with your pool professional on the minimal amount of time the pool pump should operate*

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