

# Wally's Home Tip – Keep Cool & Save Money!

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## Keeping Cool While Saving Money

### Home Energy Savings: Air Ducts

Have air ducts checked for leaks. Look for sections that should be joined but have separated and also for holes. If you use duct tape to repair and seal your ducts, use tape with the Underwriter's Lab logo so it doesn't degrade, crack or lose its bond with age. Remember that insulating ducts in the basement will make the basement colder in the winter and warmer in the summer. If both the ducts and the basement walls are uninsulated, consider insulating both. Call your HVAC contractor to help you assess the need for additional insulation and to insulate and repair all ducts, if needed. Make sure vents are not obstructed by furniture, appliances or other objects so that air can flow freely. This maximizes efficiency of the system and helps distribute cool air throughout the room. Clean or change furnace filters once a month or two, and have the system maintained according to manufacturer's instructions. Dirty filters, coils and fans reduce airflow throughout the system, which decreases performance and can damage your system.

