

What's the right setting to save you money?

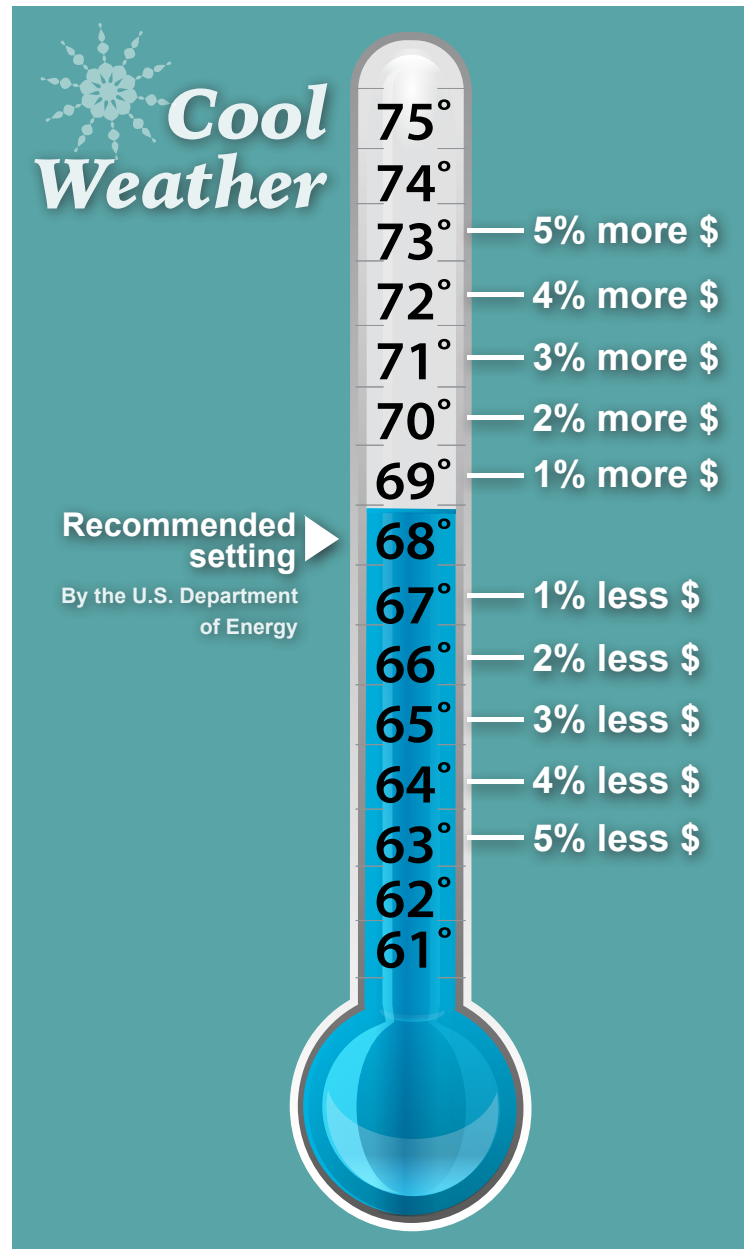
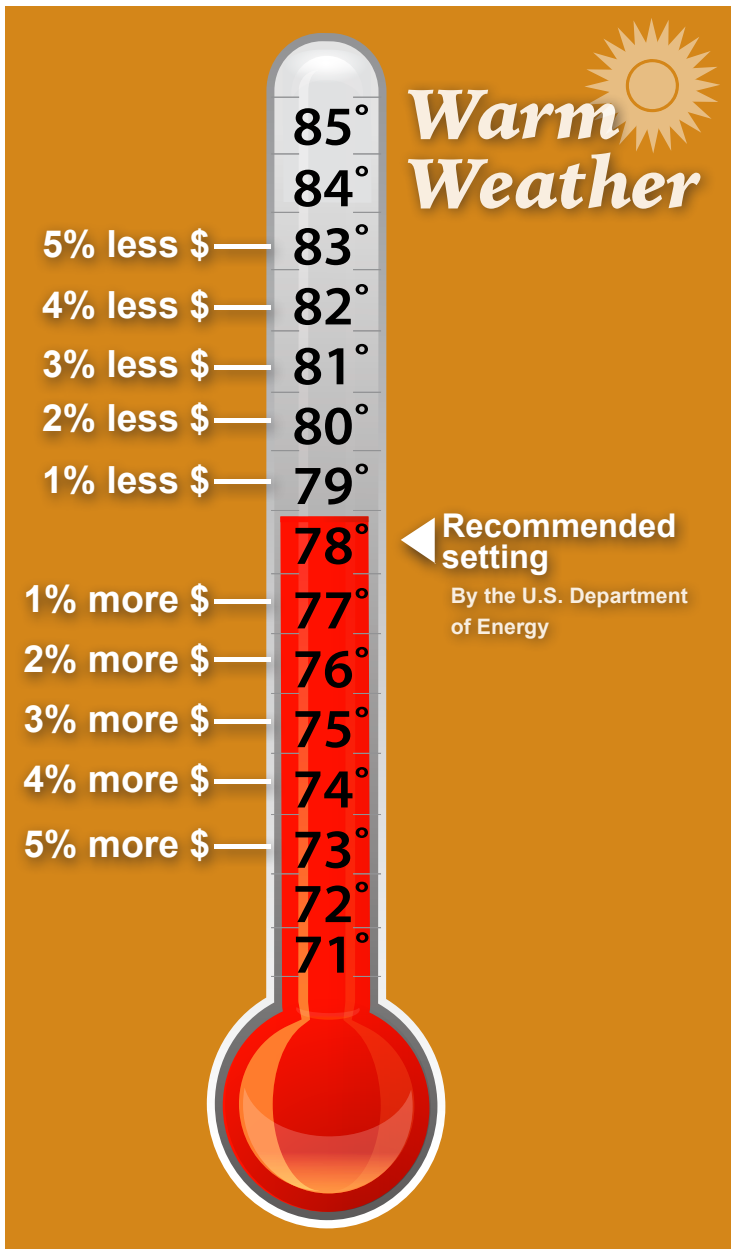
Don't let Texas weather extremes deplete your bank account. This handy guide can help you calculate how to save energy and money. The illustrations show potential savings in cooling and heating costs in summer and winter. Below you can see how

adjusting your thermostat higher or lower can make a significant difference on your bill.

- In summer, try setting your AC at 79 degrees instead of the recommended 78 degrees and you could pay 1 percent less.
- Is it cold outside? Throw on a sweater and move your recommended 68-degree winter thermostat setting down to 66 to cut your heating bill by as much as 2 percent.



Get more energy-saving tips at bluebonnet.coop under the Energy Solutions tab.



Many variables such as weather, size of house, and age and efficiency of AC/heating system can affect these percentage savings.

Save Money, Save Energy

Reduce your impact on the environment and your wallet with these low- or no-cost saving tips.

Heating and Cooling

- In summer, keep your home or business at 78-80 degrees and above 80 degrees when away. In winter, keep it 65-68 degrees and 60-65 degrees when away.
- Clean or replace air filters once a month to keep heating and AC systems running efficiently.
- Install a programmable smart thermostat to efficiently manage your heating and cooling.
- Supplement AC with ceiling fans to increase comfort.
- In the winter, open shades on south-facing windows to let sunlight warm your house.

Appliances

- Wash a full load of clothes and use cold water when possible. Hang clothes to dry to save energy.
- Wait until you have a full load to run the dishwasher, and then let your dishes air dry.
- Shop for ENERGY STAR-rated products.

Electronics

- Plug home electronics — TVs, cable boxes, game consoles, DVD players, computers, printers — into power strips that can be turned off when not in use.

Lighting

- Use only CFL or LED bulbs, which can last 10 to 25 times longer and use 75 percent less energy.
- Use timers and dimmers to lower light levels and reduce energy costs. Use natural lighting when possible.

Water

- Lower the temperature on your water heater. Take short showers and use low-flow showerheads.

Windows and Doors

- Caulk/weatherstrip doors and windows. Install windows with coated glass that can cut heat loss by up to 50 percent.

Find more home and business efficiency tips as well as information about ENERGY STAR appliances and home energy audits at bluebonnet.coop. Hover your cursor over the Energy Solutions tab, then click Saving Energy.