



June 2013 eNewsletter

> Simple Money-Saving Tips for Summer

As summer temperatures begin to rise, so do electricity costs. Here are a few tips to help you save money during these sweltering months.



Refresh your airflow. Replacing air conditioner filters can be easy to overlook, but a dirty filter can increase cooling costs. Dirty filters restrict the airflow and the efficiency of the air conditioner, which translates into more run time and higher cooling costs. Filters are cheap, so replace filters monthly for maximum benefit. Also, turn off the air before heading to bed and open a few windows whenever there's a cooler night.

Turn up your thermostat. Yes, you read that right. Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home and 85 degrees or off when you are away. If you have central air conditioning, keep your thermostat at 78 degrees. You can save approximately six to seven percent off your cooling costs for each degree above 78. Ceiling or room fans allow you to set the thermostat higher, because the air movement helps cool the room.

Wash your dishes wisely. To help prevent electricity outages, avoid running appliances—like your dishwasher—during peak hours, generally from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. You may not know it, but newer dishwashers use less water than washing dishes by hand. Conserve energy by running your dishwasher only when it is fully loaded, then turn off the dry cycle and let the dishes air dry instead.

Cook without a stove. Few things are more energy efficient for cooking than your microwave; it uses two-thirds less energy than your stove. Using the stove or baking in the oven can create a lot of excess heat that has nowhere to go except in your house. Consider taking meal plans to the barbecue grill outside so that you can keep your cool inside.

Cool down your laundry. Do your laundry efficiently by using the warm or cold water setting for washing your clothes. Use cold water to rinse clothes as often as possible. If you have the ability to hang up laundry outside, let the sun and warm summer breeze do the drying for you. Even if you can't hang up clothes outside, try using your dryer on a lower heat setting or only partially drying your shirts and letting them air dry the rest of the way.

Upgrade to real cool. An Evaporative Cooler, sometimes called a swamp cooler, is a great way to cool air in warm climates with

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ON YOUR AGENDA

June 19–July 31 —[Northglenn Summer Concert Series](#) at E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park

June 13–16 —[CNI Cochlear Kids Camp](#) at the YMCA of the Rockies Estes Park Center

DID YOU KNOW?

Save Time and Money When Paying Your Bellco Auto Loan

Through Bellco's ACH network, you can make automated recurring loan payments from another financial institution to pay your Bellco auto loan. It's a safe and worry-free solution for making loan payments on time, every time, plus there is no fee for this service.

Before you begin, you'll need to know the routing number and checking account number from the financial institution that you'd like the payment to come from. You'll also need to have your Bellco Loan Number.

To get started, go to the secure [DocuSign® page](#), which will allow you to electronically sign and submit your form. Simply fill out the required information and follow the prompts to schedule your recurring loan payments. Please note, it can take up to five business days for your recurring payment to become activated.

low humidity, while providing 75% more efficient cooling compared to central AC. There are usually rebates available, so check with the specific manufacturers or your energy company for qualified brands. If you're a homeowner looking to make the switch to evaporative coolers, consider the cost-savings benefit of opening a [ChoiceLine](#) Home Equity option.

> Free Summer Activities in Denver

No matter what you want to see or do this summer, you are sure to find the perfect activity in your own mile-high backyard. With so many free options available, there should be no problem staying busy while staying on budget. Here are just a few options:



FREE FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

[Cherry Creek Fresh Market](#) (Saturdays, May 4 to October 26, 8am–1pm & Wednesdays, June 19–September 25, 9am–1pm. at E. First Ave & University Blvd.)

Consistently named by locals as their favorite farmers' market, the Cherry Creek Fresh Market is devoted to Colorado producers. Shopping here helps local family farmers stay in business, preserves quality local food sources for Colorado while using fewer resources, and most importantly, provides you with access to the freshest and most nutritious produce available. Bellco is proud to be the Presenting Sponsor of the Cherry Creek Fresh Market for the 2013 season.

[Cherry Creek Arts Festival](#) (July 5–7)

Over Fourth of July Weekend, 350,000 visitors enjoy the visual, culinary, performing arts, plus interactive activities for the whole family. Meet and talk with international visual artists, sample fine cuisine, and enjoy live musical performances and artist demonstrations.

[A Taste of Colorado](#) (Aug. 30–Sept. 2)

Held every year over Labor Day Weekend in Civic Center Park, A Taste of Colorado puts the spotlight on the diversity of Colorado cuisine. Delight your taste buds with creations from the state's favorite restaurant and food establishments.

FREE CONCERTS AND OUTINGS

[Outdoor Movies in the Parks](#) (All summer long)

Spread out a blanket in one of Denver's gorgeous parks for a FREE, family friendly movie at dusk. Click the link above for dates, movies, and locations.

[City Park Jazz](#) (Every Sunday night in June and July)

Denver's City Park Bandstand and Pavilion turns into a swinging, open-air jazz club as music lovers of all ages congregate for the free City Park Jazz. Don't forget to bring a picnic and your blanket!

FREE COLORADO TOURS

[US Mint Tour](#)

Learn how to make money! The Mint produces 50 million coins a day, each one stamped with a little "D" for Denver. Free tours show every step in the process of turning a dull, blank, metal slug into shiny pocket change.

BELLCO COMMUNITY

Follow Bellco on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Foursquare](#), [Yelp](#) and [Pinterest](#) to get quick tips, news on events and other up-to-the-minute Bellco information.



[Coors Brewery Tour](#)

"Taste the Rockies!" The world's largest brewing site still uses the same Rocky Mountain spring water that Adolph Coors discovered in 1873. Free tours show every step in the brewing process, and end with free samples for those over 21.

[Celestial Seasonings Tour](#)

See how the largest specialty tea manufacturer in North America blends, packages and ships its teas, then enjoy free samples of every variety they make, and discover a gallery of original artwork from their famous tea boxes.

For even more FREE summer-activity ideas, head over to Denver.org.

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