

## Prepare for Summer Heat by Lowering Cooling Costs

Summer is right around the corner and that means your heating, air conditioning and ventilation (HVAC) system will be working overtime to cool your home. Can it take the heat? If not, it may be time to invest in repairs or energy-efficiency upgrades that will help you lower cooling costs.

Did you know that your HVAC system is the No. 1 user of electricity in your home? An HVAC system accounts for up to 58 percent of energy costs on a typical utility bill. Higher cooling costs can be caused by anything that makes your HVAC system work harder. An old, worn-out HVAC system, poor insulation and air leaks can increase energy bills, especially during extreme temperatures typical for South Texas.

CPS Energy has several rebates to help you save money when upgrading your HVAC system. If you purchase a new central air conditioner with a SEER rating of 15.0 or greater, you can qualify for a CPS Energy rebate worth hundreds of dollars. Rebates

also are available for new window unit air conditioners that are ENERGY STAR® certified. Leaks in your air duct system are often the most overlooked and costliest burden on your heating and cooling system. If you need to repair, replace or test your air flow system, CPS Energy has several air flow performance rebates available.

If air leaks in your home are increasing your energy bill, you might need to replace insulation. Attic, wall and spray foam insulation rebates can help you save on this important energy-efficiency improvement project. Before starting your energy improvements, check [cpsenergy.com](http://cpsenergy.com) for rebate amounts and requirements.

The savings that you'll achieve from these CPS Energy rebates is only the beginning. Visit [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) to find out what federal tax credits are available to help you save even more.

*Esta información está disponible en español. Llame al 353.2222.*

# Energy Connection



## Lasko Products, Inc. Recalls Box Fans

Lasko Products, Inc. is recalling approximately 4.8 million box fans manufactured from July 31, 2002 through July 31, 2004. A potential electrical failure in the fan motor poses a fire hazard to consumers. The following Lasko box fan models have been recalled: Model No. 3720, Model No. 3723, Model No. 3733 and Galaxy Model No. 4733.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled fans and call Lasko Products toll-free at (800) 233-0268, or visit [laskoproducts.com](http://laskoproducts.com) for details on receiving a free fan protection cord adapter designed to protect against a potential hazard.

## CPS Energy Rolling Out Emergency Alert System for Customers

This summer, CPS Energy will implement a new emergency alert system to provide you critical information regarding power outages or emergencies. The new system is in response to customer requests for more timely information regarding power disruptions and will be used for emergency communications.

The alert system will be used during major events, such as hurricanes, freezing temperatures, or extreme heat that may result in system-wide outages or increased demand on the local and statewide electrical grid.

Earlier this year, many CPS Energy customers lost power when sustained cold weather caused a spike in electrical demand across the state at a time when multiple power generating units were

offline. The new alert system will improve our ability to provide advanced warning messages to you, as we receive them locally, during similar outage events. The new alert system will not be used at this time for messages related to billing, service connection or disconnection, localized outages or non-emergency communications.

Similar to messages sent by area school districts notifying parents of important school issues, the messages will be created by CPS Energy and sent promptly to you. Customers will be provided with more information about the new emergency alert system soon, including how to update their contact information, select alert preferences or opt-out of receiving emergency alerts.

## Why a Texas Railroad Commission Gas Safety Charge?



The Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the distribution and safety of natural gas across our state, has instituted a program administration fee to offset the Commission's costs for managing gas safety education. CPS Energy natural gas customers are charged this administrative fee one time per year. If you are a natural gas customer, this 70-cent charge for 2011 is included in the Gas Rates section (on the back) of your May bill.