

COMED'S AIR CONDITIONING CYCLING

Get guaranteed savings with Central Air Conditioning Cycling.

If you own your own home and have a central air conditioning unit, you can earn credits on your electricity bill with ComEd's Air Conditioning Cycling. Once you enroll, ComEd puts a special switch on your a/c unit that lets them cycle your compressor "off and on" during heavy-demand summer days. In return, you get a monthly credit on your bill from June through September.

Depending on which option you choose, you earn a guaranteed total annual credit of either \$20 or \$40 by giving up a few degrees of cooling during a limited number of summer weekdays. And you also help us manage electricity demand and use resources more efficiently.

Every summer that ComEd has used the switch, ComEd's Air Conditioning Cycling participants have contributed to a reduction of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions in the ComEd service area. So you not only save money, you help the environment, too.

Choose the option that's best for you:

50% OPTION	
Time:	Weekdays, 11 a.m to 8 p.m.
Unit cycles off:	Maximum of 15 minutes every half hour over no more than a six hour period, if needed.
What you get:	\$5 credit per month per household, June 1 through September 30
Typical customer:	Anyone with central air conditioning. This option has little impact on comfort. Most people don't even notice when the cycling happens. To be safe, it's not recommended for people with medical conditions.

100% OPTION	
Time:	Weekdays, 11 a.m to 8 p.m.
Unit cycles off:	One continuous 3-hour period during any weekday, if needed.
What you get:	\$10 credit per month per household, June 1 through September 30
Typical customer:	Anyone with central air conditioning who won't be home during hot summer weekdays, or is simply OK with an increase in indoor temperature. This level delivers the greatest environmental benefits. To be safe, it's not recommended for people with medical conditions.

* A 100% option customer can, at ComEd's choice, be cycled the same as a 50% option customer.

To sign up for ComEd's Air Conditioning Cycling you can go to ComEd's website at www.ComEd.com/ACcycling or call (888) 806-CARE (2273).

Frequently Asked Questions

What is ComEd's Central Air Conditioning Cycling? (Formerly known as Nature First)?

ComEd's Central Air Conditioning Cycling is demand response for central air-conditioners that allow homeowners like you to earn credits on your electricity bill.

How does ComEd's Central Air Conditioning Cycling work?

Once you enroll, ComEd will install a special switch on your central air conditioning unit that lets them cycle your compressor "off and on" during summer days with high electric demand. In return, you will receive a monthly credit on each ComEd bill from June through September.

How much can I earn?

Depending upon which option you choose, you can earn a total annual credit of either \$20 or \$40 by giving up a few degrees of cooling during a limited number of summer weekdays. If you select the 50% option, you will receive a \$5 credit / month for each month beginning June 1 through September 30. If you select the 100% option, you will receive a \$10 credit /month for each month beginning June 1 through September 30. These savings are guaranteed!

Will the switch that ComEd installs harm my air conditioner?

No. Your air conditioning compressor cycles "off and on" normally. The switch simply allows ComEd to manage the cycling times to reduce electrical demand.

Will my air conditioner's warranty be affected?

No. Each switch is tested before installation and has been approved by top air conditioner manufacturers such as Carrier, York, Lennox and Trane.

Can I really make a difference by signing up?

Yes! By participating in ComEd's Central Air Conditioning Cycling, you contribute to ComEd's ability to provide reliable service for everyone by reducing peak demand on the electrical system. In addition, every little bit helps in conserving energy and saving natural resources. Each summer that ComEd has used the switch, ComEd's Central Air Conditioning Cycling participants have reduced carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions. These elements contribute to global warming and acid rain. ComEd's Central Air Conditioning Cycling, and similar efforts, can also help defer the need for new generation resources that can add to the cost of providing electricity.

I have more than one air conditioning unit. Can I get more credits?

No. Since air conditioner efficiency varies by unit, the square footage of your home and other factors, we can only offer a \$5 or \$10 credit per household per month.

Will ComEd continue to maintain the control switch to insure that it is operating correctly?

Yes, ComEd will periodically send someone out to inspect the control switch to insure that it is working properly. If you are getting a new air conditioning compressor or, for any reason, the control switch becomes disconnected (i.e., vandalism or other causes) you will need to contact ComEd to reconnect it.

How does ComEd decide when to use the switch?

It depends on overall demand for electricity, which is usually dictated by the weather. Typical peak demand occurs when the temperature is extremely hot with high humidity and ComEd's system is reaching capacity.

How often will ComEd use the switch?

Based on past experience you can typically expect the switch to be cycled two or three times during the summer. The maximum number of days cycling can occur is 20 days (120 hours) for the entire summer.

Will I notice a change in the temperature inside my house when the switch is used?

Customers who have participated generally noticed very little difference in their comfort level. Your air conditioner's fan remains on, circulating the already cooled air throughout your home. Also, cycling usually occurs during the weekday afternoons, when many people are out of the home. To keep your home cool on hot days, keep window shades closed and refrain from using heat-generating appliances.

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