



## Smoothing Peak Demand in Hot Weather

Posted by [Glenn](#) on July 27, 2006 - 7:55am in [The Oil Drum: Local](#)

Topic: [Demand/Consumption](#)

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We are expecting high temperatures here in NYC the next couple of days. Here are the energy saving tips that NYC.GOV is putting out:

1. Set your air conditioner thermostat no lower than 78 degrees -- a 75-degree setting uses 18 percent more electricity and a 72-degree setting uses 39 percent more electricity. This setting allows for sufficient cooling while still conserving electric power.
2. Only use an air conditioner when you are home. If you want to cool your room down before you arrive home, set a timer to have it switch on no more than one-half hour before you arrive
3. Turn off all nonessential appliances.
4. Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms.
5. Only use appliances that have heavy electrical loads (dishwashers, washers, dryers) early in the morning or very late at night.

#5 is interesting because you are still using the energy, but you are really simply shifting demand to when power is less in demand. For more on what you can do, see my own little list below.

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### Personal Choices

1. CLEAN THE AC's filter. I know it's gross but this can increase efficiency tremendously
2. Stay later at work and use their air-conditioning until 7-8pm when it is cooler and peak demand is past.
3. Take a cool shower and drink cool liquids if you feel too hot.
4. Unplug (not just turn off) everything you are not using. Powerstrips help.
5. Put up Curtains on your windows to keep the light out.
6. Replace all your incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs (75% less energy and heat given off)
7. Go outside in the evening and sit by water instead of inside in the AC with lights on.

Care to play readers?



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