

## FINAL CHANCE TO ENTER HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER

If you receive this Energy Update before November 30th then you still have time to register for a free home energy makeover. Nolin will be drawing two names at the end of November and each of those members will have the opportunity to win one of two prizes: ENERGY STAR home appliances costing up to \$1,200, or home energy upgrades costing up to \$1,200. If you have not registered, please call the Nolin RECC office at 270-765-6153 or visit [www.nolinrecc.com/makeover](http://www.nolinrecc.com/makeover) to enter your name in the contest.

 **NOLIN RECC's**  
**HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER**

## QUESTIONS ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY? ASK NOLIN

Below are answers to questions about energy efficiency to help you pull the plug on energy costs.

**Q. How do I know when I should have maintenance performed on my HVAC unit?**

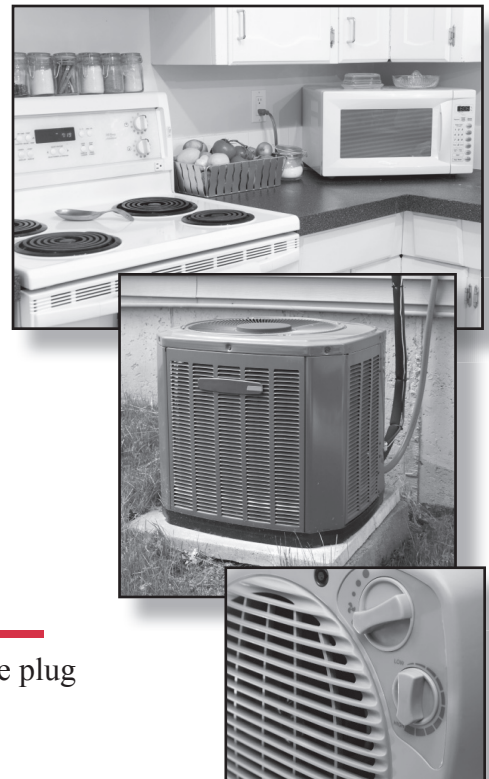
**A.** If you have a heat pump, look inside the unit outside of your home. Check the coils, which look similar to the metal fins on your car radiator. If the coils are dirty, your unit needs maintenance.

To make sure the job is done right, you may want to hire a licensed HVAC technician.

Good maintenance involves turning off the power at the disconnect or breaker, gently spraying on a coil cleaner (soapy water is usually adequate) and then using a hose to spray off the cleaner with a gentle stream of water. Never use a pressure washer or intense rinse as this will damage your unit.

In addition, your technician should test both supply and return air temperatures. He should also check the refrigerant level and inspect for leaks so you're ready when winter arrives.

OVER 



Mickey Miller  
President & CEO

With proper maintenance, your unit will be free of the dirt that wastes money by causing it to work extra hard. In most cases, you should have this job done annually. A well maintained system lasts much longer. And it saves you money each month.

**Q. I heard that using a space heater causes high bills. Is that right?**

**A.** Many people would be shocked at how much their space heater increases their monthly bill. What's worse is that many house fires are caused by improper use of space heaters.

A typical portable electric space heater consumes anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 watts per hour. Some people run space heaters during day and night hours. By the time your bill arrives, the hourly costs add up.

For example, a 1,000-watt space heater operating 12 hours per day at a cost of 10 cents per hour will add \$36 to your monthly electric bill.

If you use a 1,500-watt space heater for the same amount of time, your bill will jump more than \$54 each month. It can cost as much as \$108 per month to operate a 1,500-watt space heater 24-hours a day.

If the cost does not deter you, remember how important it is to use space heaters safely. Make sure your unit is equipped with automatic shut-off features and heating-element guards. Place your space heater out of high-traffic areas and on level, hard, non-flammable floor surfaces – NOT on carpets, furniture or countertops. Finally, never leave a space heater unattended. Turn it off or unplug the unit before leaving the room or going to bed.

**Q. How important is duct leakage?**

**A.** Most ducts leak 30 percent of a home's heating and cooling. To fix that, simply apply a substance called mastic with a paintbrush to every duct seam. By plugging these leaks, you'll go a long way toward saving some green.

No matter where we turn these days, bills are going up. Nolin is also being squeezed by skyrocketing costs for everything from fuel to adding new generating equipment.

We're in this together, so let's work together to save on energy consumption. For more information on how you can pull the plug on energy costs, call Nolin RECC at 270-765-6153.

Sincerely,



Michael L. "Mickey" Miller  
President and CEO



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