#DIDYOUKNOW:
The quickest way to save energy on home cooling is to regularly clean and replace your cooling unit's filters.
Tips for Lowering Cooling Costs

The extreme temperatures of winter and summer aren’t the only times of year you can reduce your energy costs. Here are a few helpful tips to lower utility bills this spring as well.

• **Get your central AC system checked by a professional once a year.** A system checkup done at least annually can improve your comfort and the efficiency of your AC while prolonging the life of your unit.

• **Change the filters.** Routinely replacing or cleaning air filters can lower your cooling system’s energy consumption by up to 15 percent.

• **Clean around the outdoor unit.** There should be a minimum 2-foot clearance around the unit for optimal air flow. Also, consider how large your plants will grow when planting near the HVAC unit.

• **Using a ceiling fan** allows you to raise your thermostat as much as four degrees without sacrificing comfort.

• **Install and set a programmable thermostat.** It could help you save up to 10 percent on heating and cooling costs per year.

• **Don’t heat your home with appliances.** On hot days, consider using an outdoor grill instead of your oven.

• **Install energy-efficient window coverings** that let natural light in and prevent solar heat gain.

• **Insulate and seal ducts.** Air loss through ducts accounts for 30 percent of a cooling system’s energy consumption.

For more energy savings tips, visit: www.electricities.com