

SEALING THE LEAKS

Weather-stripping, caulking and insulation will not only prevent heat loss in the winter, they will also keep the heat out in the summer.

TREES & PLANTS

Plant shade trees on east, south and west exposures. They not only cool the house walls directly, but cool a large volume of air.

Google: yourleaf.org/backyard-tree-planting-program

Create living green walls (ivy, etc) on east, south and west walls to prevent your house wall mass from warming. To prevent damage to brick, a lattice can be installed.



More Info:

Booklet: *C3 Ontario: Creating Cool Communities (cool roofs, trees & vegetation, cool pavement)* **Google:** cleanairpartnership.org/C3Ontario

Vasil, Adria *Ecohollic Home*. Vintage Canada 2009

Keeping cool the green way, staying cool without heating up the planet. * NOW magazine.

Google: [now toronto keeping cool](#)

Rebate program for old air conditioners. **Google:** [home depot keep cool](#)

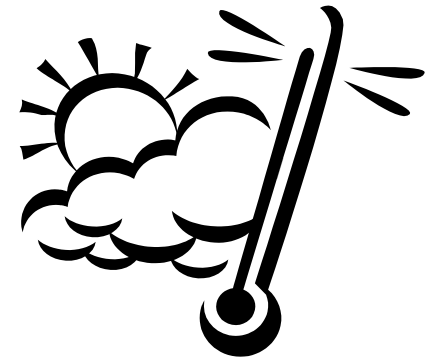
** Thanks to Adria Vasil whose work is the source of many of the points in this brochure.*



www.gn21.ca

COOL IT!

Keep cool
without
Heating the
planet!



WINDOW COVERINGS

Leave your windows open at night then shut them in the morning, and close the curtains or draw the blinds before it gets warm.

Metal and vinyl venetian blinds just heat up in the sun and radiate that heat into the room.

Install fabric curtains or blinds instead. Use a light reflective colour against the glass, and any desired colour on the inside. Consider cellular or honey-comb blinds, or sheerweave roller shades that allow you to see outside but keep out up to 95 percent of the sun's rays.

Install Solar plastic window film on east, south and west facing windows. Glazing prevents solar heat from getting into the house.

Outdoor shutters and awnings will keep the sun's rays from touching your windows.

Install awnings - can be roll-up or fixed - or sun-brake trellis on east, south and west facing windows.

FANS

Fans use 90 per cent less electricity than ACs.

"Not all fans are alike. Energy Star ceiling fans move air up to 20 per cent more efficiently than standard ones. Some, like aerodynamic Turbo-Aire high-velocity cooling fans, are 300 per cent more energy-efficient than others with the same size motor. The 12-inch one consumes less power than a 100-watt bulb.

Reversible window fans are great because you can adjust them to pull air from one window and push it out another, creating a much-needed cross-current in your sweltering apartment."

NOW. July 21.2005

Get the right fan to fit your needs. For example, you don't need a large powerful fan for a small room.

Use a fan at the bottom of the basement stairs to push cool air up to the main floor.

Install ceiling fans in rooms where the ceilings are high enough.

In the evening use window fans to suck out the warmer air in the house before going to bed.

Install a whole-house fan to vent the entire house into attic space and roof vent system in the evening.

You can run your furnace fan (fan only, no heat) to circulate cooler basement air throughout the house.

AIR CONDITIONING

Purchase a unit sized appropriately for your space, and look for Energy Star-certified units.

Turn the thermostat up to at least 25 degrees.

If you have central air conditioning you can have a peaksaver switch installed to have Toronto Hydro automatically turn down your air conditioner during times of peak demand (for homes and businesses) & get a credit on your Hydro bill.

Google: peaksaver toronto hydro