

**Marietta**



**Power**

**Water**



April 2015

# Connected

## Staying Safe in Severe Weather Conditions

Due to humid weather conditions, Georgia regularly faces many types of natural disasters. The most common is thunderstorms, which can produce tornadoes, strong winds, hail and flash flooding. Every year people are killed or injured because they didn't hear or ignored severe thunderstorms warnings. The tips below can help you prepare for severe weather situations:

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for emergency updates. Watch for signs of a storm, like darkening skies, lightning flashes or increasing wind.
- If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Lightning can strike upwards of 10 miles away from the rain area of a storm.
- If a severe thunderstorm warning is issued, take shelter in a substantial building or in a vehicle with the windows closed.
- Keep away from windows and make sure outside doors are securely closed.
- Avoid electrical equipment and corded telephones. Cordless phones, cell phones (not plugged into wall charger) and battery-powered radios are safe to use.
- Plumbing conducts electricity, so do not take a shower, wash dishes or do laundry.
- If you are driving, find a safe place to park. Stay in your vehicle and turn on the emergency flashers until the heavy rain ends.
- Get to higher ground if flooding is possible. Do NOT attempt to drive to safety. Most flash flooding deaths occur in automobiles.
- If you are outside and cannot reach a safe building, find a low spot away from trees, water, and metal objects such as fences and poles.
- Stay at least 25 feet away from downed power lines and report them immediately.

For more information on preparing for severe weather, visit [www.ready.ga.gov](http://www.ready.ga.gov) or [www.gema.ga.gov](http://www.gema.ga.gov). 💧

# Simple Ways to Cool Your Home and Save Money

If you want to keep your home cool in the hot Georgia months without reaching deeper into your wallet, consider the following tips which can reduce energy consumption and save your hard-earned money.

## Block Heat

- Approximately 30% of unwanted heat comes from your windows. Use drapes and blinds to keep them covered as often as possible during daylight hours.
- If you prefer more light entering the home, you can opt for blinds, adjusting them to let in some light while also reflecting the sun's heat.
- Caulk and weather-strip any cracks or openings in doors and windows that may leak air.
- Insulate your attic floor to keep heat from radiating down into the home.

## Remove Interior Heat

- In the hotter months, your ceiling fan should run in the counterclockwise direction to

produce a downward airflow. Since ceiling fans use less than 1/10th the wattage of an air conditioner, this can help reduce energy consumption and cooling costs.

- Turning your thermostat down 8°-10° F from its normal setting for 8 hours a day can save you as much as 10% a year. You can do this automatically by using a programmable thermostat.

## Reduce Heat-Generating Sources

- Appliances like dishwashers, dryers, and ovens generate a large amount of heat. Try using them in the morning or at night when the outside temperature is cooler.
- Consider switching the incandescent bulbs in your house to fluorescent bulbs which emit about 90% less heat. During daylight hours, keep the lights off as much as possible and let the natural light brighten the room.
- Unplug any electronics during the day - these devices can emit heat even in standby mode. 💧

## Calendar



### Friday, April 24 Glover Park Concert Series

8 p.m.  
Glover Park in Marietta Square  
Grain of Sand – Beach/R&B

The concert lineup includes:

**May 29**  
Douglas Cameron – Big Band / Swing  
**May 30**  
Symphony on the Square

### June 26 The Neons – Motown

**July 31**  
Mike Veal Band – Variety  
**August 28**  
Electric Avenue – 80's hits  
**September 25**  
Grapevine – Oldies / R&B

For more information visit  
[www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov).

### Saturday, May 2 Marietta Food Tours

11 a.m.  
For more information visit  
[www.mariettafoodtours.com](http://www.mariettafoodtours.com).

**Marietta Power and Water will be closed on Monday, May 25 in honor of Memorial Day.**

**For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit [www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov) and click on Calendar of Events.**

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