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SP459-N Household Cleaning - Air Conditioners

The University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service

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Air Conditioners

Air conditioning units of any type use large amounts of electricity. If you take care of them, they will last longer, work better, use less energy and be safer for you and your family.

- Make sure you seal or weather strip all the cracks and gaps around the unit and in the room.

- Inspect the filter regularly. Clean or replace it if it is filled with dust. The filter is usually located on the room side of the unit behind the grille. Check the manual that came with the model you own. Remove the screws or turn the latches that hold the panel and pull it from the unit.

- Wash a reusable filter in detergent and water. Rinse well, dry and put back into the unit.

- Replace filters that are disposable.

- While the filter is out, check for dust on the fan blades. Vacuum if dirty.

- Careful, do not cut yourself or damage the blades!

- Put the filter back in place and put the panel back on the same way you took it off.

- Make sure the unit is a little lower on the outside. This keeps water from dripping inside the room.

NOTE: If you live in an area that has a lot of air pollution, the unit should be steam cleaned once a year. A serviceman will have to do this.