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2. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE - UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA 1.

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(612) 373-0710

Air Conditioner Efficiency

(0:30)

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A University of Minnesota agricultural engineer says all residential air conditioning units do NOT cool with the same efficiency.

Harold Cloud says an eight-thousand B-T-U-H window unit may draw nine-hundred watts, while another eight-thousand B-T-U-H window unit may draw twelve-hundred watts. In one hour, each of these units will give the same cooling effect, but the first unit will consume 75 percent as much energy as the second unit.

Engineer Says:

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Air conditioners are rated by their cooling capacity which generally appears in catalogs and other product publications as B-T-U-H.

The B-T-U-H rating is the cooling capacity of the unit as determined by a standard test under specific outside and inside temperatures.

Consumers should make sure that they buy a unit that is rated according to the specifications of the American Refrigeration Institute or the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers.

Proper Cooling Recommendation

(0:15)

Here's the present recommendation for proper sizing and most efficient use of an air conditioner: Maintain the conditioned space 10 to 15 degrees lower than the outside temperature rather than attempting to condition for a specific temperature at all times.

