



ONLINE NEWSLETTER

The Latest News From Your Neighborhood Hardware Store!

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COOL!

Ice cream was introduced to the United States by Quaker colonists who brought their ice cream recipes with them. Confectioners sold ice cream at their shops in New York and other cities during the colonial era. Ben Franklin, George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson were known to have regularly eaten and served ice cream. First Lady Dolley Madison is also closely associated with the early history of ice cream in the United States. One respected history of ice cream states that, as the wife of U.S. President James Madison, she served ice cream at her husband's Inaugural Ball in 1813.



“Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it”

- Russel Baker

(SERIOUSLY GOOD)

LEMONADE!

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar (can reduce to 3/4 cup) -1 cup water (for the simple syrup)
- 1 cup lemon juice (from a REAL lemon)
- 3 to 4 cups cold water (to dilute)

Method

- 1 Make simple syrup by heating the sugar and water in a small saucepan until the sugar is dissolved completely.
- 2 While the sugar is dissolving, use a juicer to extract the juice from 4 to 6 lemons, enough for one cup of juice.
- 3 Add the juice and the sugar water to a pitcher. Add 3 to 4 cups of cold water, more or less to the desired strength. Refrigerate 30 to 40 minutes. If the lemonade is a little sweet for your taste, add a little more straight lemon juice to it. Serve with ice, sliced lemons. Serves 6.

HOT!

The hottest temperature ever recorded on earth was 136 °F on August 13, 1922 in Al 'Aziziyah, Libya



Yes, It's HOT!

But, You Can Save Money and Energy With These Useful Tips

Fast and Free

Turn your thermostat up. During warm weather, set your thermostat as high as possible, given health and comfort considerations and drink plenty of fluids. Turn thermostats to 78 degrees when at home; 85 degrees when away. Use fans to circulate cool air. Close your drapes or shades. Windows are one of the largest sources of heat gain in your home. Although not as effective as exterior shading, keeping your drapes and shades closed during the day helps keep unwanted heat out of your home. Ventilate when it's cool outside. Cut your cooling costs by opening windows when it's cooler outside than inside. In the morning, close up the house to trap the coolness inside. Use ceiling fans wisely. Ceiling fans create enough air movement in a room to make it feel cooler by four degrees or more. They use only about as much energy as a 100-watt light bulb. Since you will feel cooler, make sure that you turn up your thermostat to 80 degrees or higher to save on your energy costs. Use appliances efficiently. Do only full loads when using your dishwasher and clothes washer. Run your appliances during off peak hours or after the sun goes down. Be sure to clean your clothes dryer's lint trap after each use. Use the moisture-sensing automatic drying setting on your dryer if you have one. When replacing these appliances, buy Energy Star products. They save up to 30 percent over standard models. Plug leaking energy in electronics. Many new TVs, VCRs, chargers, computer peripherals and other electronics use electricity even when they are switched off.

Although these standby losses are only a few watts each, they add up to over 50 watts in a typical home that is consumed all the time. If possible, unplug electronic devices and chargers that have a block-shaped transformer on the plug when they are not in use. For computer scanners, printers and other devices that are plugged into a power strip, simply switch off the power strip after shutting down your computer. Operate pool filters and cleaning sweeps efficiently. Look at the operating hours for your swimming pool filter and automatic cleaning sweep (if your pool has one). Shorten the operating time if possible. Switch pool filter and sweeper operations to off-peak hours and ideally during night time hours. Consider replacing pool pumps and motors with updated, more efficient equipment.

Inexpensive Energy Solutions

Install a programmable thermostat. Accidentally leaving the air conditioner on while you are out for the day becomes a thing of the past. Set your programmable thermostat to 85 degrees when you are away during the day, and 80 degrees when you are home. Don't forget to turn the system off when you leave for the weekend.

Replace your air conditioning filters once a month. Dirty filters restrict airflow and can cause the coil in your air conditioner to freeze up significantly increasing energy use. Saving up to 5% of cooling costs. Keep air conditioner outside unit clear. Air must be able to circulate freely around your air conditioner's outside unit. Keep the area around it clear of weeds and debris. Never build or put anything near the unit that would interfere with the air circulation. If air can't circulate freely around your outside unit, you'll have higher bills and more service calls.

Install compact fluorescent lights. Replace incandescent light bulbs with Energy Star compact fluorescent light bulbs, especially in the 5 light fixtures you use the most. Compact fluorescent lights use 75% less energy than incandescent lights. If every household converted from incandescent light bulbs to energy efficient compact fluorescent lights, Install low flow showerheads. You'll be surprised how much this simple device can cut your hot water costs.

Wrap your hot water tank with jacket insulation. If your water heater is gas, be sure to leave the air intake vent uncovered.

