

*You*  
were Asking



*Jamie Edwards*

E-mail your questions to  
jamie@jmedwards.com  
905-631-6363

## Save money on summer utility bills

Yay, summer is here! Thank goodness for the air conditioning in your new home. You sit down, put your feet up and aaahh...Then you pick up your first utility bill and **ARRGH!!** There are ways to keep your home cooler on warm summer days and avoid costly utility bills. The first is to make sure you have ample insulation and doors and windows are caulked and weather stripped. Cover windows with insulated drapes and blinds to help keep the sun out. Use fans to circulate cooler

air and keep your lights off when not in use. This advice also helps keep warm air in during the winter. Lesser watt and fluorescent bulbs and dimmer switches are great for energy efficiency. Plant a shade tree near south or west facing windows. Have your air conditioner serviced regularly. Dirty units make the air conditioning work harder costing you more money and put unnecessary allergens in the air. Line dry your laundry if you can, if not, install hanging racks in your laundry room to

avoid using the dryer as much as possible. Use your laptop computer at home rather than a desk top. Did you know it consumes 5 times less electricity?

Jamie M. Edwards, B.A., FRI, CRB, CRS is the Broker of Record for J.M. Edwards Associates Inc. and Past President of the Realtors Association of Hamilton-Burlington, Burlington Chamber of Commerce, and the Ontario Real Estate Association.