



Due to the changing climate and the urban heat island effect, the Sacramento region is projected to grow hotter. Luckily, individuals have the power to control urban heat; your choices can make your home and community more resilient.

COOL ROOFS

Cool roofs help reflect solar heat away from your house on a hot sunny day. This keeps your house cooler, so you need less A/C and save more energy. A cool roof can be up to 50°F cooler than a conventional, dark roof. They come in all types of materials and colors – check out the Cool Roof Rating Council’s guide (coolroofs.org).

COOL TREES

SMUD and the Sacramento Tree Foundation work together to provide free trees and workshops to help strategically plant trees to shade your home. Trees as well as rain gardens and other green spaces can help beautify communities, increase property values, clean the air and water, support local wildlife, and reduce the urban heat island effect.

COOL HOME

SMUD and PG&E offer carbon-free energy options for around \$8 extra per month. If you don’t have air-conditioning at home, keep windows and shades closed during the hottest part of the day. Try to find a place to cool off on very hot days, such as a friend’s house, public library, community center, movie theater, shopping center, or cooling center. Check up on older folks and others who might otherwise be trapped inside without A/C during times of extreme heat.