

Summer 2014

Back-to-School Shopping Guidelines

Back-to-school means expenses! Clothes, shoes, electronics and daily school supplies can drain a budget quickly. The average family with school-aged children spends \$635 on back-to-school items each year. It's no wonder setting a budget is essential for all parents with school-bound youngsters.

To avoid falling into debt at back-to-school time, plan ahead for how much you want to spend. Apparel and accessories are the biggest costs you will encounter so make sure to take inventory of your child's closet. You will also need to budget for the changing technology of school supplies – if possible, try to buy new electronics every other year since they change so rapidly. Also, don't forget about doctor checkups, school fees, athletic or other extracurricular fees, which are often overlooked when setting a back-to-school budget.

If you still need a little help, AgFed's Signature Loan will help you with all your back-to-school financial needs.

Apply at www.agfed.org.



Summer Time Energy Saving Tips

You can save on energy costs and help the environment at the same time by following some simple steps:

1. Plant trees or shrubs, especially on the west or south sides of your house. This can reduce your cooling costs by up to 30%.
2. Keep your shades down on the sunny side of the house.
3. Use your outdoor grill, crockpot or microwave instead of your oven.
4. Use the "air dry" setting on your dishwasher.
5. Turn off lights, your computer and other home office equipment when not in use.
6. Stick to white shades, drapes and blinds for windows to reflect heat away from your home.
7. Install programmable thermostats and keep the temperature above 80 degrees when nobody is home.
8. Make sure your attic has enough ventilation, and consider an attic fan to reduce your cooling costs even more.

A cooling system is one of the biggest energy guzzlers in your home (second only to your heating system, depending on where you live). If you have an old air conditioning system, consider replacing it with a more energy efficient system. You should be able to recoup the cost in just a few years.

If you decide to make some major or minor changes and need a loan, come to AgFed first for a Home Equity Loan.

Apply at www.agfed.org!



CREDIT UNION NEWS

USDA Farmer's Market & AgFed!

Check out the USDA Farmer's Market - they have fresh veggies and fruits for healthy living. Don't forget to stop by AgFed's table for a healthy financial life, too.

Location: USDA parking lot, corner of 12th Street & Independence Avenue, S.W.

Dates: Every Friday - June 6th to November 14th

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Farmer's Market Opening Day: Friday, June 6th, Join AgFed and Hot 99.5 for a Member Appreciation Event!

Meet Hot 99.5's Toby Knapp! There will be great music, prizes, and lots of fun.

Habitat for Humanity

On September 17th, six AgFed employees will be volunteering for build a day at Habitat for Humanity. This annual event is to help people who are less fortunate than others. This is another way AgFed continues to help in the community.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Independence Day - Friday, July 4th

Labor Day - Monday, September 1st

Mortgage Questions? AgFed has the answers...

Tired of renting, but not sure buying a home is the right move? It is a major decision so it's easy to understand why some potential buyers have a hard time making the decision. Here are a few common fears prospective homebuyers share, and why you shouldn't let them hold you back.

- 1. I don't have a 20% down payment** - AgFed has a variety of low money-down loan options to help you purchase your first home, even if you haven't saved a hefty down payment. You can pay as little as 3% down*.
- 2. I don't have a realtor** - Finding the right realtor is essential to a positive home buying experience. AgFed has partnered with CU Realty, a full service realty company that will assist you with finding a qualified agent. Plus, you'll can get a 20% Cash Rebate*.
- 3. I don't know how much home I can afford** - We have experienced and knowledgeable mortgage representatives who can walk you through every step. This includes helping you examine your over all financial situation and goals, and estimating how much you should reasonably expect to spend on a home. For many people, a home is the biggest purchase of their lives. We'll work to make it your best purchase, too.

**Apply for your mortgage 24/7 by visiting
www.agfed.org or calling (888) 451-5626.**

*To qualify for the 3% down payment program, PMI and qualifications for minimum credit score and debt to income ratio apply.

**Rebates are awarded to buyers and sellers registered in the CU Realty Program before they begin their home search or sale and who use a Realtor from the Approved Agent network.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 3419
Alexandria, VA 22302

24-hour Member Service:

(202) 479-2270
(800) 368-3552

e-mail Address:

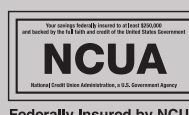
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AgFed
Credit Union
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VISIT

WWW.AGFED.ORG

FOR CURRENT RATES, BRANCH LOCATIONS & MORE INFORMATION
ON OUR PROMOTIONS, PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.



24-hour Telephone Banking A.R.T. (Audio Response Teller):

(202) 488-3130 or
(800) 872-AFCU (2328)

24-hour Loans by Phone:

(888) 451-LOAN (5626)

Mobile Banking Address:

mobile.agriculturefcu.org