How to Plant for Energy Efficiency

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Tall, deciduous shade trees are best for the west and south sides of your house.

Plant evergreen trees on the north side to block winter winds.

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Trees planted on the west and south sides provide the greatest energy savings since they shade from the afternoon's hottest summer sunlight.

Even small trees can provide energy-saving shade to windows or your A.C. unit.

Large trees planted on the east side provide shade from the morning sun.

By planting deciduous trees on the south and west sides of your house, you have cooling shade in the summer and warming sunlight in the winter — when the trees lose their leaves. Note that large trees can shade the house from farther away than medium trees.

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