

HEATING AND COOLING THE OUTDOORS

If your home doesn't have enough insulation or leaks too much air, even the most efficient equipment will waste energy. *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* also offers the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program which can help you:

- Identify sources of wasted energy;
- Increase the comfort, safety and durability of your home;
- Make money-saving improvements; and
- Save up to 30% or more on your home energy costs.

Low-interest financing and generous incentives are available to help you get the work done. Call 866-NJSMART for more information.

HEATING AND COOLING

This program is offered through *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* and provides incentives toward the purchase of qualifying heating and cooling equipment. Make sure that your system meets the minimum requirements listed on NJCleanEnergy.com/WARM or NJCleanEnergy.com/COOL. Check with your gas utility company regarding additional incentives that may be available on heating equipment.



For additional information: Visit NJCleanEnergy.com Call 866-NJSMART



New Jersey's Clean Energy Program is a statewide program administered by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities that promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy for all New Jersey ratepayers, including residences, businesses, schools and municipalities. For more information please visit: NJCleanEnergy.com.

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HEATING & COOLING SYSTEM GUIDE



Heating & Cooling Equipment

Your guide to buying high efficiency heating and cooling equipment

Shop smart with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and its *Clean Energy Program*[™]

NJCleanEnergy.com 2014 Program Version

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Energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment will help you save on your energy bills while making your home more comfortable. Our *WARM*Advantage and *COOL*Advantage Programs offer incentives on energy-efficient equipment such as furnaces, boilers, heat pumps, water heaters and central air conditioners.

MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

Choosing a quality contractor to properly size and install your system will help ensure you receive good service and maximum comfort.

1. Credentials

Consider choosing a North American Technician Excellence (NATE) certified contractor or a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor. Visit the Eastern Heating and Cooling Council's website at eh-cc.org for a current list of NATE certified contractors or NJCleanEnergy.com/HP for a list of BPI certified contractors.

2. Price Quotes

Obtain at least three price quotes based on an onsite inspection of your home. Bids should include costs for labor, materials, permits/ fees and disposal. Remember that the lowest bid isn't always the best choice. Paying slightly more may get you better equipment and service.

3. Permits and Insurance

Make sure your contractor obtains all permits required by your municipality and verify that they have liability insurance to safeguard against any accidents.

4. Warranties

Buy a system with a good warranty. Warranty information should be clearly stated on the contract and state how long the warranty lasts and exactly what is covered. It should also state who is responsible for honoring the warranty.

HURRICANE SANDY INCREASED INCENTIVES

For a limited time, *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* is offering enhanced incentives to help residents recover from damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. Qualifying Sandy participants will be entitled to an enhanced HVAC rebate of \$200 per unit in addition to the incentive available at the time of purchase. Select central air conditioners may be eligible for a \$500 incentive. Full details can be found at NJCleanEnergy.com/SANDY.

FURNACES AND BOILERS

All furnaces and boilers have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) rating, a standard set by the United States Department of Energy. Simply put, it measures how much of your dollar actually goes toward heating your home. The higher the rating, the higher the efficiency of the equipment. Look for the ENERGY STAR® to ensure you are getting heating equipment that has a high rating for energy efficiency, and visit our website for a list of qualifying equipment.

CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, HEAT PUMPS AND DUCTLESS MINI-SPLIT SYSTEMS

If your cooling equipment is more than 12 years old, it's probably time to replace it with a new, properly sized unit. Replacing your cooling system in the off-season (from October to April) will make it easier to schedule a contractor. Consider hiring a properly trained contractor. NATE certified contractors are highly skilled and will install your cooling systems bringing you peace of mind and comfort.



BEST PRACTICES

Properly Sized Equipment

Most heating and cooling equipment is significantly oversized. Buying a system sized properly for your home provides more comfort and efficiency, while maximizing your investment. When making a replacement, simply updating your system with the same size equipment may not give you the best results. Ask your contractor to recommend the proper size equipment for your home.

Combustion Safety

When replacing gas heating equipment (like a furnace or boiler) that will no longer vent into the same flue with the gas water heater, it is always advisable to replace the gas water heater with one that will vent in a similar, direct or power-vented fashion. Your contractor can explain why leaving an atmospherically vented water heater by itself is not recommended for safety reasons.

Ductwork

Make sure that the existing ductwork in your home will be compatible with your new equipment. Sometimes duct systems are too small to allow proper airflow. A contractor will be able to test how well your current ductwork is sealed and if leaks are discovered, fix them using quality sealants.

Programmable Thermostat

Installing a programmable thermostat is an easy way to conserve energy and save money in your home. A programmable thermostat gives you increased control over the way you heat and cool your home by allowing you to adjust the temperature. You can save as much as 10% a year by simply turning your thermostat back seven to ten degrees for 8 hours a day.

Access

Maintenance is very important when it comes to maximizing the efficiency of your new equipment. The unit should be easily accessible so that tasks like cleaning or replacing filters are easy to perform. Routine maintenance will maximize the system's energy efficiency, economic benefits and lifespan.