



Call **866-NJSMART** to find out more ways to save energy, money, and the environment or visit **NJCleanEnergy.com** for more information about *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*.

## Shop Smart Checklist

Follow these easy steps when purchasing and installing a water heater for your home.

- Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/warm](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/warm) for available rebates and eligibility requirements before purchasing new equipment.
- Choose a tank size that will efficiently meet your household's hot water needs.
- Install your new system in a place where it is easily accessible and can be maintained.
- Make sure your water heater is properly vented.
- Insulate at least the first 15 feet of your hot water pipes.
- Talk to your installer about the maintenance requirements of your new water heating equipment. Have your installer show you how to perform maintenance tasks.
- Consider having a *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®* assessment conducted on your home. Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/hp](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/hp) for more details.



## Water Heating Equipment

Your guide to buying a high efficiency water heater



Shop smart with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™*



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# Water Heating Equipment

Making the right choice for your home, your family, and the environment is easier than you think.

In emergency situations, water heaters are replaced in haste based solely on storage tank size. Many times homeowners purchase the same size tank as the previous unit. By preparing yourself with some basic information, you will be able to make an informed decision regarding the best water heater for your home.

## 1. Energy Efficiency

All water heaters have an Energy Factor (EF) rating. The EF measures how efficiently your water heater burns gas. Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/warm](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/warm) to ensure you choose a system with the proper energy factor to be eligible for a rebate.

## 2. First-Hour Rating (FHR)

The FHR measures how much hot water the unit will deliver during a high-demand hour. Your installer can help you calculate the appropriate FHR to meet your household needs.

## 3. Equipment Capacity

An oversized water heater wastes energy when not in use. Make sure your installer helps you choose a system sized to meet your family's needs.



## Installation and Maintenance

As with any home appliance, installation and proper care of your new water heater will maximize the benefits you'll enjoy.

- 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](http://eh-cc.org) for a current list of NATE certified contractors or [NJCleanEnergy.com/hp](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/hp) for a list of BPI certified contractors.
- Like home heating systems, a water heater should be properly vented. New vertical, horizontal, and mechanically generated venting options allow more flexibility when choosing the unit size and location. Ask your plumber or installer to check the venting of your water heater.
- Because sediment from the water can collect in the bottom of the water heater, one bucketful of water should be drained from the bottom of the tank once a month. Ask your installer to demonstrate how this task should be performed.
- Check for leaks around the fittings. If you suspect leakage, contact a licensed plumber to have the leaks sealed.



## WARM Advantage Program

This program is offered through *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* and provides incentives toward the purchase of qualifying, high efficiency residential water heaters. To qualify for a rebate, your water heating equipment should meet the minimum requirements listed in the chart below. Check with your gas company about additional incentives.

	Minimum Efficiency Rating	Incentive
Domestic Water Heater	Energy Factor (EF) .82 or greater	\$300
Electric Solar Domestic Water Heater*	Electric backup (visit <a href="http://NJCleanEnergy.com/warm">NJCleanEnergy.com/warm</a> for eligible equipment list)	\$1200

\*Available while funding lasts.

Please visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/warm](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/warm) for full program details and to download an application form. To learn more about increasing your home's energy efficiency, as well as programs that are sponsored by *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*, visit [NJCleanEnergy.com](http://NJCleanEnergy.com) or call **866-NJSMART**.