

## Introduction

### Energy Savings

### The Health and Safety of Your Home

### A Cleaner Environment

*If you're considering the purchase of a new or replacement natural gas hot water heater, your choice may directly impact these three important areas of your life. Choosing high efficiency gas water heating equipment can save you money on your gas bills, while reducing pollution associated with energy use. In addition, choosing a quality installer to properly size and install your system will help to ensure that you receive good service and maximize the health and safety of your home.*

*This booklet is designed to give you a better understanding of high efficiency gas water heating equipment, installer selection, and system installation and maintenance, as you shop for a natural gas hot water heater. You will also learn how you may qualify for a cash rebate through the WARMAdvantage Program as part of New Jersey's Clean Energy Program.*



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



## Water Heating



Shop Smart  
with New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™

Natural Gas  
**WATER**  
Heating Appliances



*Your Guide to Buying  
a High Efficiency  
Natural Gas  
Hot Water Heater*

## WATER HEATING EQUIPMENT

### Making the Right Choice

The water heater is the third largest consumer of energy in a home, after heating and cooling systems. Many times, in emergency situations, water heaters are replaced in haste, based solely on storage tank size. And usually, 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 uses the gas with which it is supplied. Look for a water heater with an EF of .62 or higher to ensure a high level of efficiency.

#### 2. FIRST-HOUR RATING:

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 unit wastes more energy when not in use. Make sure your installer helps you choose a system sized to meet your family's needs.

### Venting

Like home heating systems, a natural gas water heater should be properly vented. New vertical, horizontal, and mechanically generated venting options allow more flexibility when choosing the unit size and location.



### INSTALLATION AND

### Maintenance

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

- Choose a licensed installer who is familiar with your local water heater installation and venting codes and ordinances.
- Insulate at least the first 15 feet of the hot water pipes, to increase energy savings.
- Install both low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators for additional energy and water savings.
- 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 fittings. If you suspect leakage, contact a licensed plumber and have the leaks sealed.

## WARMAvantage

### Program

The WARMAvantage Program is offered through New Jersey's **Clean Energy** Program and provides cash rebates toward the purchase of qualifying high efficiency free-standing gas water heaters. Check to make sure that your water heating equipment meets the minimum requirements listed in the chart below. Please contact New Jersey's **Clean Energy** Program for complete details and a WARMAvantage rebate form.

	MINIMUM EFFICIENCY RATING	REBATE
<b>Freestanding Water Heater</b>	<b>.62 EF</b>	<b>\$50</b>

To learn more about increasing your home's energy efficiency and energy efficiency programs that are sponsored by New Jersey's **Clean Energy** Program, visit [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com) or call **1-866-NJSMART**.

### Shop Smart Checklist

Follow these easy steps when purchasing and installing a natural gas water heater:

- Buy a freestanding gas water heater with a minimum EF of .62, to qualify for a rebate through the WARMAvantage Program.
- Select an experienced licensed installer.
- Choose a tank size that will efficiently meet all of your household's hot water needs.
- Have your new system located for easy access and maintenance.
- Make sure your gas water heater is properly vented.
- Insulate at least the first 15 feet of the hot water pipes.
- Talk to your installer about the maintenance requirements of your new gas water heating equipment. Have your installer show you how to perform any maintenance tasks.

