

Energy Star Rated Appliances

- Did you know that the average home spends about \$1,900 on energy costs every year?
- Change to appliances that have earned the ENERGY STAR, and you can save \$80 a year in energy costs, while saving the environment.
- When buying an appliance, remember that it has two price tags: what you pay to take it home and what you pay for the energy and water it uses. ENERGY STAR qualified appliances incorporate advanced technologies that use 10–50% less energy and water than standard models. The money you save on your utility bills can more than make up for the cost of a more expensive but more efficient ENERGY STAR model.
- For top performance, premium features, and energy savings, look for energy-efficient clothes washers, refrigerators, dishwashers, room air conditioners and dehumidifiers that have earned the ENERGY STAR. This mark may appear on the appliance, the packaging or the Energy Guide label.
- If your HVAC equipment is more than 10 years old or not keeping your house comfortable, you should have it looked at by a professional HVAC contractor. If it is not performing efficiently or needs upgrading, consider replacing it with a unit that has earned the ENERGY STAR. Installed correctly, these high-efficiency heating and cooling units can save up to 20 percent on heating and cooling costs. But before you invest in a new HVAC system, make sure that you have addressed the big air leaks in your house and the duct system. Sometimes, these are the real sources of problems rather than your HVAC equipment. Source: www.energystar.gov

Green Your Gadgets

Electronics become “outdated” so much more quickly than 10 or 20 years ago. To insure you are responsible with your gadgets and computers consider doing the following:

- Resist the urge to upgrade every time a “newer” or “cooler” gadget comes out. Reduce at the source—you save money and the time (and frustration) to learn how to operate and program the new gadget!
- Donate working computers and electronics to charities or school programs that can resell or refurbish them.
- Completely broken? Recycle! Electronics are the new “hot” item being recycled across the country. Go to: www.eiae.org for a list of e-cyclers in NH.

Today’s tip: Do you purchase products in bulk for a company, institution, or other organization? Are you looking for energy-efficient products at competitive prices? If so, check out ENERGY STAR Quantity Quotes where you can get quotes on ENERGY STAR qualified room air conditioners, clothes washers, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, dishwashers, light fixtures, and light bulbs. ENERGY STAR Quantity Quotes is a free online service of the U.S. Department of Energy.

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