

IN YOUR HANDS THE POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS

ENERGY FACT SHEET

- The average household will spend roughly \$4300 on all energy costs in 2005 (includes home energy bills and gasoline), about \$600 more than it paid in 2004—and 2006 is projected to be even more costly.
- The average household will spend almost \$1900 on home energy costs in 2005.
- Heating and cooling costs account for one-half or more of a typical home's total energy bill.
- The average household will spend about \$2400 on gasoline in 2005.
- According to the Department of Energy, modest increases in energy efficiency, including insulation, would eliminate the need for 600 new power plants.
- With gas heating costs expected to rise by roughly \$300 per household, and heating oil costs projected to increase by around one-fifth this winter, simple things such as sealing, weather stripping, proper insulation, and programmable thermostats stand to have a dramatic effect on consumer energy costs.
- A programmable thermostat could save up to \$100 per year on utility bills.
- An ENERGY STAR® qualified furnace, when properly sized and installed, along with sealed ducts and a programmable thermostat, can save up to 20 percent on heating bills.
- For each degree you lower your thermostat in winter, you can save up to 5 percent on the heating portion of your energy bill, depending on the climate where you live.
- An ENERGY STAR qualified furnace will use about 15 percent less energy than a standard model.
- If just 10 percent of U.S. households replaced their old heating and cooling equipment with an ENERGY STAR qualified model, and ensured that it was sized and installed properly, it would prevent the equivalent emissions of more than 17 billion pounds of greenhouse gases.
- The average home produces twice as much greenhouse gas emissions as the average car. New homes with the ENERGY STAR label are certified to use at least 30 percent less energy than required by the national model energy code and 15 percent less energy than the state energy code.
- If every U.S. household replaced just one incandescent bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified fluorescent bulb, it would save enough energy to light 7 million homes and save \$600 million in utility bills.
- The average home has 2 televisions, a VCR, a DVD player and 3 telephones. If these items were replaced with ENERGY STAR qualified models, it would save more than 25 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of taking 3 million cars off the road for a year.
- Households that replace existing equipment with ENERGY STAR qualified products can cut annual energy bills by 30 percent, or more than \$500 per year.
- When you make energy efficiency part of your everyday activities, you are reducing energy demand. Reducing demand means that less natural gas, coal and other resources are needed to produce energy. This means less greenhouse gas emissions and cleaner air for all of us—and cost savings for you.
- Businesses across the U.S. are doing their part to improve their energy efficiency. Many are working with the EPA's ENERGY STAR program to ensure that their buildings use 40 percent less energy than the average building. They are educating their employees about the value of saving energy at home and at work.
- Under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, consumers and businesses can receive tax incentives for specific energy-efficiency upgrades to homes and commercial buildings, such as upgrades to home insulation and windows and commercial building lighting improvements. In addition, the law includes tax credits for energy-saving technologies such as hybrid vehicles, appliances, heating and cooling systems, solar energy systems, and high-efficiency new home and commercial building construction.

For more information and ways to save, visit www.powerisinyourhands.org
(12/14/05)



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Creating an Energy-Efficient World