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Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®

Program Overview

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is an energy efficiency program resulting from a collaboration between the nationally recognized ENERGY STAR Program and Focus on Energy, Wisconsin’s energy efficiency and renewable energy initiative. The program is designed to provide owners of existing Wisconsin homes a cost effective way to reduce their energy bills and enhance the comfort, durability and energy efficiency of their homes.

To participate, residents must contact a partnering consultant or qualified contractor and schedule a comprehensive evaluation of their home. This includes testing and measuring the house for air leaks, inspecting insulation levels, mechanical systems, exhaust fan ventilation, identifying sources of excessive moisture and evaluating safety issues like combustion appliance venting and carbon monoxide levels. The customer then receives a list of home improvement recommendations, as well as a list of partnering contractors who complete the work to Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program standards. At the end of the project, the consultant will return to re-evaluate the home and verify the work was correctly implemented, as well as fill out Cash-Back Reward paperwork, should the homeowner qualify.

Benefits to Homeowners

Homeowners may benefit from a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR evaluation and subsequent energy efficiency improvements in the following ways:

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- **Greater Energy Efficiency.** The home evaluation provides information on how the home uses energy and focuses on home improvements that can be done to make it more energy efficient. An optional computer analysis, called a Home Energy Rating, will predict energy savings for each potential home improvement, allowing the homeowner to select the most cost effective measures.
- **Added Durability.** By finding the sources of excess moisture and providing solutions to the problems before mold takes hold, consultants who partner with the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program may help improve a home's indoor air quality and avoid building degradation.
- **Added Comfort.** Home evaluations aim to identify root causes of summer or winter temperature discomforts. By addressing insulation, air sealing and whole-house solutions, drafts may be reduced, providing a more comfortable home.
- **Added Value.** By solving problems and improving a home's condition, making recommended improvements may help increase a home's resale value. A potential buyer will be happy to see documentation that all systems are working properly and maximum efficiencies are being achieved.

Financing Home Improvements

The Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program offers technical expertise, as well as Cash-Back Rewards or financing options to consumers who improve the energy efficiency of their homes. Homeowners interested in receiving financial assistance from Home Performance with ENERGY STAR must meet two criteria: their electric and/or natural gas utility or cooperative must participate in the program; and the resident's dwelling must be a detached single-unit dwelling, mobile home, duplex or three-unit building.

Efficient Heating & Cooling Program

For Wisconsin homeowners, the decision to upgrade their home heating and cooling systems can be a difficult and expensive one. But with the Efficient Heating & Cooling Program, a sister program of Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, residents can make upgrades to furnaces, central air conditioners and boilers economically with Cash-Back Rewards. Homeowners will experience increased comfort, ultra-quiet operation and lower energy costs.

Locating a Consultant or Qualified Contractor

The Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program has partnered with a number of independent consultants and qualified contractors throughout the state to offer residents detailed energy evaluations of their homes. Each partner has received specialized training and is capable of providing reliable and unbiased recommendations.

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These professionals partnering with the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program have had years of practical, on-the-job building industry experience. They are well trained and regularly attend continuing education courses. Each consultant and qualified contractor's primary job is to help residents solve the home's comfort issues. They can also write up work orders and find contractors to do the work, if needed. Each consultant and qualified contractor operates under a set of principles outlined in the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Code of Ethics. Rates are determined on an individual basis.

Learn More

For more information about the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program, including details about current financing, Cash-Back Rewards, eligibility requirements and the names of consultants and qualified contractors who work with the program, visit focusonenergy.com/getcomfortable or call (800) 762-7077.

About Focus on Energy

Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not be completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment and control the state's growing demand for electricity and natural gas. For more information, call (800) 762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

About the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is one of the Focus on Energy Residential Programs. It is designed to provide owners of existing Wisconsin homes a cost effective way to reduce their energy bills and enhance the safety and comfort of their homes. To participate, a homeowner must have a comprehensive home evaluation and work completed by consultants and contractors partnering with the program. To date more than 4,500 whole house projects have been completed under the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program. For more information, call (800) 762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

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