

Saving Money While Saving The Planet

Saving energy now makes a lot more financial sense for homeowners because several levels of government and several utilities are participating. There is assistance from several groups, but it is not easy to find all the sources of help. This paper simplifies the situation and saves you time, while pointing you in the right direction. Let's start with some goal setting:

Consumers' goals:

1. Minimize capital spending (buying equipment)
2. Minimize ongoing fuel and utility costs (operating costs)
3. Maximize home comfort
4. Do the right thing for the planet

Government & utility goals:

1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help minimize climate change
2. Conserve energy and water

The goals are more closely aligned than ever before. The cornerstone is the ecoENERGY Retrofit - Homes program, a Natural Resources Canada initiative. Significant cost savings are now available to Ontario homeowners. While there are many programs and incentives, this partial list includes some highlights that we believe provide the greatest return on investment.

How to book your ecoENERGY Assessment

Step 1: Get an energy evaluation. The cost is ~ \$325. You get \$150 rebate from the Government of Ontario. The report will tell you where you can save energy in your home.

Call Carson Dunlop at **800-268-7070** or
Email us at inspection@carsondunlop.com

Step 2: Make your improvements.

Step 3: Get a second (verification) assessment done. The cost is typically \$150 and the energy advisor will help complete the grant application.

What you need to know

Heating and cooling

\$1,250: ENERGY STAR® qualified gas furnace with DC variable speed motor: \$500 (Federal), plus \$500 (Provincial), plus \$100 from Enbridge Gas Distribution, plus \$125 from Ontario Power Authority (Cool Savings Rebate), plus another \$25 from Ontario Power Authority (Cool Savings Rebate) for a programmable thermostat.

\$1,200: ENERGY STAR® qualified gas or oil boiler: \$600 (Federal), plus \$600 (Provincial), plus \$100 from Enbridge Gas Distribution (if gas).

\$1,000: ENERGY STAR® qualified oil furnace with DC variable speed motor: \$500 (Federal), plus \$500 (Provincial).

\$800: Replace conventional air conditioner with ENERGY STAR® qualified SEER 14/15 high-efficiency air-conditioner: \$200 (Federal), plus \$200 (Provincial), plus \$400 from Ontario Power Authority (Cool Savings Rebate).

Note: Some equipment manufacturers also offer rebates.

Over 

Insulation

\$2,000: Insulate all your basement walls with more than R-23 additional insulation: \$1,000 (Federal), plus \$1,000 (Provincial).

\$1,600: Insulate all your crawlspace walls with more than R-23 additional insulation: \$800 (Federal), plus \$800 (Provincial).

\$200: Add a minimum R-20 additional insulation to the joist header space at the top of foundation walls: \$100(Federal), plus \$100(Provincial).

\$1,200: Upgrade attic insulation from R-12 to R-50: \$600 (Federal), plus \$600 (Provincial).

\$1,200: Upgrade flat or cathedral roof insulation from R-12 to R-28: \$600 (Federal), plus \$600 (Provincial).

\$300: Air sealing to improve the air tightness of your home: \$150 (Federal), plus \$150 (Provincial).

Windows, skylights and doors

\$60 each: Replacement windows that are ENERGY STAR® qualified: \$30 (Federal), plus \$30 (Provincial).

Note: Smaller grants are available if existing insulation levels are higher, if you add less insulation, or if you can only insulate in some areas.

Conserving water

\$160: Replace toilet with low flush toilet: \$50 (Federal), plus \$50 (Provincial), plus \$60 from City of Toronto.

\$175: Replace toilet with dual flush toilet: \$50 (Federal), plus \$50 (Provincial), plus \$75 from City of Toronto (Dual flush toilets use different amounts of water for different types of waste.).

No PST!

There is a PST rebate until January 2010 for renewable energy installations.

The fine print

1. Maximum grants levels:
 - a. \$5,000 - Ontario Ministry of Energy
 - b. \$5,000 - Natural Resources Canada
2. The Cool Savings Rebate program from Ontario Power Authority is scheduled to end December 31, 2008.
3. These numbers are for single-family homes. There are different numbers for multiple unit residential buildings.
4. Equipment and appliances must meet certain energy standards. Lower grants are available for lesser equipment in some cases.

Where to go for the information you need

See the Natural Resources Canada (Federal) website at <http://www.oe.nrcan.gc.ca/english/index.cfm>

See Ontario Ministry of Energy website at <http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/index.cfm?fuseaction=english.main>

For information on qualifying toilets for the programs above, go to http://www.veritec.ca/uploads/Map_11th_Edition_Jan_14.pdf
Test results start on page 16.

For details on the City of Toronto toilet replacement program, see <http://www.toronto.ca/watereff/flush/index.htm>

For information on rebates from the Ontario Power Authority - Cool Savings Rebate Program, go to <http://www.everykilowattcounts.com/residential/coolingsavings/>

For information on ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances go to <http://www.energystar.gc.ca> or <http://www.oe.nrcan.gc.ca/energystar/english/consumers/index.cfm>

For information on Enbridge rebates, [click here](#)

For information on Union Gas rebates, go to: <http://www.uniongas.com/home/ngforhome/energysavings/rebatesIncentives.asp>

The Carson Dunlop Difference

After 30 years and over 85,000 inspections, our engineers understand what homebuyers need and want.

Carson Dunlop is a licensed Energy advisor by [Natural Resources Canada \(NRCAN\)](#) and will conduct your ecoENERGY evaluation in accordance with the standards set out by NRCAN. Your energy advisor will provide you with a personalized report, including a [checklist of recommended retrofits](#) to improve the energy efficiency of your home. Together with our Quality Control Officer you can rest assured that your inspection and report will be of the highest quality.

We are there after the inspection, with free technical consulting for as long as you own the home.


CarsonDunlop
Consulting Engineers

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