

Spring is  
the perfect time  
to prepare  
your home for the  
Austin summer.

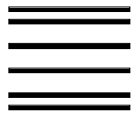
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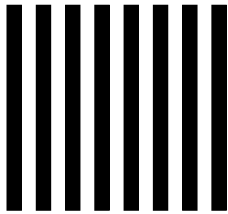
HOME PERFORMANCE WITH ENERGY STAR PROGRAM  
AUSTIN ENERGY  
PO BOX 1088  
AUSTIN TX 78767-9811



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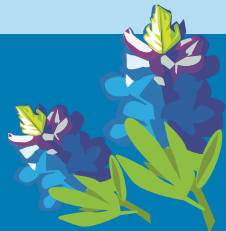
Austin Energy  
Residential Energy Programs  
P.O. Box 1088  
Austin, Texas 78767-9811



BEAT THE HEAT

**SPRING INTO SUMMER  
COMFORT AND SAVE!**





# Act **NOW** to Enjoy Summer Comfort— Plus Great Rebates and Energy Savings!



## Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Rebates up to **\$1,100**

For sealing air ducts, as well as adding attic insulation, solar shading, caulking and weatherstripping

Home Performance Rebates . . . . . up to \$1,100

Weatherization Bonus for all recommended measures plus a new energy-efficient air conditioner . . . . . up to \$500

Texas Gas Service Rebates . . . . . \$298

**Add up to BIG savings . . . . . \$1,898**

### Or use our Home Performance Loan

**0%** A.P.R. fixed interest loans up to \$11,000!

### ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- By participating in the **Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®** program, you may be exempt from City Code 6-7 that requires a specialized energy audit at the time you sell your home.
- Energy savings for all improvements average **32%** on cooling bills.

### THREE OPTIONS TO GET STARTED

- Call a participating company from the list on our website at [www.austinenergy.com/go/companylist](http://www.austinenergy.com/go/companylist)
- Call 974-7827 and ask about the **Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®** program.
- Fill out reply card and drop in the mail — we'll contact you.

**Call Austin Energy at 512-974-7827 or visit [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com) for program details.**

*Don't Wait —  
Beat the Heat.*



# SPRING into Action TODAY!



**HOME PERFORMANCE  
with ENERGY STAR®**

M0412

Mail this card to learn more about energy efficiency for your home as well as rebates and low-interest loans through Austin Energy's Home Performance Program.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_

(W) \_\_\_\_\_

A convenient time to call me (between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) is \_\_\_\_\_

Do you:  own  rent

**CALL AUSTIN ENERGY AT 512-974-7827  
FOR PROGRAM DETAILS.**



GET READY FOR SUMMER AND BEAT THE HEAT

Act **NOW** to Enjoy Comfort and Savings.

Rebates of up to **\$1,898** for Energy-Saving Improvements to Your Home –  
– OR find out if you qualify for a **0%** A.P.R. Fixed-Interest Home Performance Loan



Call Austin Energy at **512-974-7827**  
or visit **[www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com)** for program details.





# YOUR 2012 GUIDE TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES

ECAD-QUALIFYING HOME IMPROVEMENT INCENTIVES	AVERAGE COST BEFORE REBATE	AVERAGE REBATE		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COST COVERED BY COMBINED REBATE
		AE	TX GAS	
<b>Home Performance with ENERGY STAR (HPES)®</b> Rebates OR loans for all of the following efficiency improvements needed, as identified in an energy analysis: central air conditioner/heat pump, attic insulation, duct diagnostic and sealing, radiant barrier, efficient windows and solar screens. Plus <b>Weatherization bonus</b> for making all identified improvements.	\$9296	\$1713	\$298	.22%
<b>Air Conditioning/Heat Pumps</b> ENERGY STAR® labeled central air conditioners and/or heat pumps. Rebates start at 14 SEER/11.5 EER	\$7067	\$441	\$75	.7%
<b>Reductions of Air Infiltration and Duct Sealing</b> Duct sealing, weatherstripping around doors, preventing airflow through attic stairs and fans, caulking around plumbing holes	\$554	\$182	\$156	.61%
<b>Advanced System Performance Testing</b> Specialized testing of the entire air duct system for air leakage, adequate airflow and distribution	\$377	\$214		.57%
<b>Duct Replacement</b> Replacement of existing ducts due to poor design, damage and deterioration	\$1153	\$136	\$136	.24%
<b>Attic Insulation</b> Upgrading attic insulation to R-38	\$1028	\$180	\$180	.35%
<b>Solar Shading</b> Solar screens, awnings, window film for sun-facing windows receiving direct sun on 40 percent or more of the glass for one hour or more	\$867	\$134		.18%
<b>Window Replacements</b> Installation of Low "E" glass to replace existing standard glass windows	\$5281	\$168		.3%

**Appliance Efficiency** (no energy analysis required)  
 Rebates on the purchase of these efficient technologies:  
 ENERGY STAR air conditioners, window air conditioners, ground source heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, variable pool pumps and motors, mini-splits ..... Check [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com) for individual appliance rebates.

**NOTE:** Figures are based on an estimate for the average single family house in Austin (1,800–2,000 sq. ft.) that has made improvements through an efficiency program by Austin Energy or Texas Gas Service.

## ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES FOR HOME IMPROVEMENT

**SOLAR REBATES**  
**Photovoltaic Rebates** – Includes installation, warranty and 5-year maintenance. Average system size is 3kW. Limited rebates available at \$2.00 per watt.

**Solar Water Heaters** – For electric water heaters only. Includes installation of rooftop system. Water is heated through rooftop piping system and stored in an electric water heater. Rebates: \$1,500 new homes /\$2,000 for existing homes.

**TEXAS GAS REBATES** – Gas Furnace Incentive (\$75), high efficiency gas water heaters (\$40) and tankless or super high efficiency water heater rebates (\$300) are available for Texas Gas Service customers only. Call 370-8243 or visit [www.TexasGasService.com](http://www.TexasGasService.com).

**Free Gas Heaters** – For Texas Gas Service customers (income qualified). 370-8243

**FREE PROGRAMS**  
**Refrigerator Recycling** – Free pick up and recycling of standard-sized old working refrigerators and freezers. We pay \$50 per working appliance. 1-800-452-8685

**Free Gas Heaters** – For Texas Gas Service customers (income qualified). 370-8243

# A GUIDE FOR HOMEBUYERS, HOMESELLERS & HOMEOWNERS

A closer look at an ENERGY-EFFICIENT HOME

**AUSTIN ENERGY**

HOME PERFORMANCE WITH ENERGY STAR

A City of Austin Program

PLUS: HELP WITH REBATES, LOANS, ENERGY SAVINGS AND EXPERTISE.



## YOUR HOME VALUE

### WHAT IS THE CONDITION OF YOUR HOME – ENERGY-WISE?

The curbside appeal of a home adds a lot to its value, but what you don't see can be equally important. How high are the energy bills in August? Are you sneezing because the ducts have leaks in them that suck dirt and allergens from the attic into your living space? Is the air conditioner about to break down? Are you uncomfortable?

Whether buying, selling or living in a home, it pays to find out how efficient the home really is as early as possible. Bills can be reduced, comfort increased and financial incentives can be used to your advantage.



*Did you know 41 percent of home sellers felt that an energy audit helped them sell their home?*

## HOW TO GET STARTED

### OPTION 1: GET A FREE ENERGY ANALYSIS

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® participating companies offer a free energy analysis to homes 10 years old and older. This walk-through analysis can give you a good idea of what needs work and the cost. All of the participating companies understand how to work with the rebates offered by Austin Energy and Texas Gas Service to make sure you stretch your energy dollars.

**Bonus:** if you receive rebates of more than \$500 or make three or more of the recommended improvements, you are exempt from the mandatory Energy Conservation and Disclosure Ordinance (ECAD) Audit (City of Austin Ordinance No. 20110421-002, April 2011).

OR



### OPTION 2: GET AN ENERGY AUDIT

A multitude of options exist for energy audits, which involve testing the working parts of your home with specialized equipment. These audits are available at a cost, which is generally in keeping with the size of your house.

Home sellers are required by the City of Austin to have a specialized audit, the ECAD Audit, before a home 10 years or older is sold. This audit covers four basic areas:

- A. Heating and Cooling System (HVAC) Efficiency
- B. Air Infiltration: Duct Performance, Air Sealing in Plumbing Areas and Weatherstripping
- C. Windows: Shading, Low "E" Glass and Solar Screens
- D. Attic Insulation

*Refer to the home improvement incentive chart found on the back of this insert for details on the incentives relating directly to the recommended ECAD Audit improvements.*

## REBATES ON KEY IMPROVEMENTS

### A. HVAC: Rebates up to \$600, Tax Credits up to \$300 and Energy Savings up to \$270 annually.

Your cooling system accounts for 60 – 70 percent of your summer electric bill. Year round, heating and cooling (HVAC) consumes more than half of the energy used by a household. If your HVAC equipment is more than 10 years old, replace it with an ENERGY STAR unit. Installed correctly, these high efficiency units can save 20 – 40 percent on cooling and heating costs.

### B. Air Infiltration and Duct Sealing: Rebates up to \$470, Energy Savings up to \$120 annually.

In houses with central heating and cooling systems, air ducts are used to distribute conditioned air throughout the house. In a typical Austin house, 27 percent of the air that moves through the duct system is lost due to leaks and poorly sealed connections. This results in higher utility bills and difficulty keeping the house comfortable.

Obvious air leaks can occur around windows and entry doors. Others are hidden and require special equipment to find. Sealing these leaks will have a great impact on improving your comfort and reducing your utility bills.



## INFORMATION

Call 974-7827 or visit our web site, [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com), for more information about Austin Energy's products and services.

### C. Windows: Rebates up to \$164, Tax Credits up to \$200, Energy Savings up to \$100 annually.

Low "E" glass windows have a special surface coating that blocks out 40 – 70 percent of the heat transmitted through clear glass, while allowing the full amount of light to pass through. Window films can block out 40 – 60 percent of heat, and solar screens can block out 60 – 70 percent of sunlight and heat. Austin Energy offers solar screen, solar film and Low "E" glass rebates of \$1 per square foot.

### D. Attic Insulation: Rebates up to \$328 and Energy Savings up to \$90 annually.

Insulation allows your house to resist heat flow. The greatest energy savings are achieved by adding attic insulation. The recommended insulation level for most attics is R-38 (or about 12 – 15 inches, depending on the insulation type). Most Austin attics have less than half of the needed insulation. Austin Energy and Texas Gas Service rebate one-third of the cost of additional attic insulation.

## ABOUT REBATES & LOANS

Rebates and low interest loans are available through the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Rebates cover up to 22 percent of total cost, up to \$1842, and save an average of 32 percent on summer electric bills. Loans, as low as zero percent, are available on energy efficiency improvements through Velocity Credit Union. If you are a Texas Gas Service customer, Austin Energy will send your application on to Texas Gas Service for rebates on attic insulation and duct sealing as well. Tax credits are also available on many of these improvements.

# Act now to Beat the Heat



Hot tips to  
keep cool and  
save energy!



A City of Austin Program

# HOT TIPS TO SAVE MONEY and ENERGY AT HOME

## REFRESHING COMFORT



### 1. Make Your Home Energy Efficient

Enjoy a comfortable home and save on your cooling bill this summer with the **Home Performance with Energy Star® program**. A participating company will analyze your whole home, including the air conditioner, ductwork, insulation and windows. Austin Energy will inspect and approve their work.



## 2. COOL CASH

**Take Advantage of Rebates and Loans**  
*From Austin Energy and Texas Gas Service*

**Rebates up to \$2,387 are available for**

- Air conditioners and heat pumps
- Sealing air ducts
- Adding attic insulation
- Solar shading
- Caulking
- Weatherstripping

**0% Loans are available up to \$11,000.**



## 3. EASY, BREEZY ENERGY SAVER\$

**More Tips** for your home that can easily reduce energy use with little effort and without spending a lot of money.

- ✿ **Watch the Thermostat**—Every degree higher than 78 cuts your cooling bill by 3 percent.
- ✿ **Choose Fluorescents**—Compact fluorescent bulbs use 60-70 percent less electricity and last up to 10 times longer.
- ✿ **Change Your Air Filter**—Replace air filters regularly with pleated ones that are rated MERV-6 or higher; dirty filters make your HVAC system work harder and longer.
- ✿ **Check Your Fridge Temperature**—Set the refrigerator temperature between 36 and 38 degrees. Freezers should be set between 0 and 5 degrees.
- ✿ **Control Your Water Heater**—Set the temperature at 120 degrees or lower to save energy.
- ✿ **Load It Up**—Run washing machines and dishwashers with full loads and choose cold water instead of hot when doing laundry.
- ✿ **Allow for Air Flow**—Move furniture or draperies away from return air vents to improve airflow.

## Did you know?

Old refrigerators and freezers use about twice the energy as newer models. Refrigerators located in the garage use even more.



To recycle your old models, call **1-800-452-8685**. Austin Energy will pay you **\$50** for each old, standard-size, working refrigerator or freezer picked up.



Austin Energy has received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 2012 ENERGY STAR Sustained Excellence Award.





**DUCT SEALING**

**ATTIC INSULATION**

**Energy-Efficient HEATING**

**Programmable Thermostat**

**Ceiling Fans**

**ENERGY-EFFICIENT APPLIANCES**

**Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs**

**EFFICIENT WINDOWS/ SOLAR SCREENS**

**CAULKING & WEATHERSTRIPPING**

**Energy-Efficient COOLING**



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	\$9296	\$1713	\$298	22%
<b>SINGLE IMPROVEMENTS MADE UNDER THE HPES PROGRAM</b>	<b>Air Conditioning/Heat Pumps</b>			
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	<b>Reductions of Air Infiltration and Duct Sealing</b>			
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	<b>Advanced System Performance Testing</b>			
	Specialized testing of the entire air duct system for air leakage, adequate airflow and distribution.....			
\$377	\$214		57%	
<b>Duct Replacement</b>				
Replacement of existing ducts that are poorly designed, damaged and deteriorated....				
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Upgrading attic insulation to R-38.....				
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<b>Solar Shading</b>				
Solar screens, awnings, window film for sun-facing windows receiving direct sun on 40 percent or more of the glass for one hour or more.....				
\$867	\$134		18%	
<b>Window Replacements</b>				
Installation of Low "E" glass to replace existing standard glass windows.....				
\$5281	\$168		3%	

## Appliance Efficiency *(no energy analysis required)*

Rebates on the purchase of these efficient technologies: ENERGY STAR air conditioners, ground source heat pumps, mini-splits, solar water heaters..... Check [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com) for individual appliance rebates.

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(\$75), high efficiency gas water heaters (\$40) and tankless or super high efficiency water heater rebates (\$300) are available for Texas Gas Service customers only. Call 512-370-8243 or visit [www.TexasGasService.com](http://www.TexasGasService.com).

### FREE PROGRAMS

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**Free Gas Heaters** – For Texas Gas Service customers *(income qualified)*. 512-370-8243



[www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com) | A City of Austin Program



Austin Energy's Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® is empowering you to lead the charge in residential energy efficiency. Now homeowners have the opportunity to choose between valuable rebates or a low-interest loan – or get both by completing a list of approved measures.

## Rebate Only

Austin Energy will continue to offer existing Rebate Only levels for the installation of new HVAC or heat pump and all weatherization measures (if needed). There are no changes to Rebate Only incentive levels. Austin Energy has added additional rebate-able measures

Beginning October 1, 2012 Home Performance with ENERGY STAR offers rebates on the following improvements:

### Weatherization Measures:

- Duct repair and sealing
- Additional attic insulation
- Solar screens, window film, or Low-E windows
- Caulking and weather stripping
- Attic radiant barrier/reflective material

### Heating and Air Conditioning:

- Air conditioner or heat pump (15 SEER/12.5 EER or greater)

### New Additional Measures:

- CFL's - \$3.00 per fixture
- Water Heater Pipe Wrap Insulation - \$3.00 per LF
- Energy Star® rated Refrigerators - \$120 per unit

## Loan Only

Austin Energy's Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program continues to make financing easy, providing homeowners with low-interest loans from Velocity Credit Union to make needed energy-efficiency improvements. Beginning October 1, 2012 the maximum loan amount will increase from \$11,000 up to \$15,000 per job.

## Loan Option 1

### Energy Improvement/AC Replacement

Energy Improvement Loan \$1,500 Min. Loan

3yr	5yr	7yr	10yr
0% APR	3.5% APR	4.5% APR	6.0% APR

## Loan Option 2

### Residential Optional Measures

Energy Improvement Loan \$1,500 Min. Loan

3yr	5yr	7yr	10yr
1.9% APR	3.5% APR	5.0% APR	6.0% APR

## Loan plus Rebate

Austin Energy's Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program now allows homeowners to get the best of both worlds. For homes that achieve a minimum of 15 points based on approved prescriptive measures, Austin Energy will offer both Low-Interest loan and Rebates for the following measures:

### Weatherization Measures:

- Duct repair and sealing
- Additional attic insulation
- Solar screens, window film, or Low-E windows
- Caulking and weather stripping
- Attic radiant barrier/reflective material

### Heating and Air Conditioning:

- Air conditioner or heat pump (15 SEER/12.5 EER or greater)

### New Additional Measures:

- CFL's - \$3.00 per fixture
- Water Heater Pipe Wrap Insulation - \$3.00 per LF
- Energy Star® rated Refrigerators - \$120 per unit

## Terms and Conditions for Loan plus Rebate option:

- ✓ Contractors are required to up-load a signed "Loan plus Rebate" eligibility form at the time the application is submitted into Power Saver – prior to verification.
- ✓ Submission of the eligibility form does not guarantee approval.
- ✓ Approval of Eligibility form provided at Verification.
- ✓ Additional energy efficiency measures are now included (i.e. CFL fixtures, pool pumps, refrigerators, pipe wrap insulation). These measures are not considered to be part of the recommended weatherization measures required to qualify for the weatherization bonus.

### Loan Terms and Conditions:

- ✓ Weatherization measures must total \$100 minimum in incentives.
- ✓ Loan interest rate as low as 3.99% depending on applicants' credit rating through Velocity Credit Union.
- ✓ Homeowners can finance up to \$20,000 in approved energy-efficiency improvements (based on actual project cost, less all rebates).
- ✓ Financing available for up to 10 years.

To receive the weatherization bonus, you must adhere to the following HPwES guideline within the residential contractor handbook. All recommended weatherization measures MUST BE COMPLETED & HVAC sized 600 sq ft per ton or greater to quality.

# Get Comfortable Saving



Photo: Andrew Pogue

Additional  
**\$200**  
WINTER BONUS  
REBATE\*

## Home Energy Efficiency Improvements

**Cleaner:** Reduced allergens and mold in your living space

**Quieter:** Right-sized equipment running smoothly and quietly

**More Comfortable:** Even air flow to all your rooms

**Lower Energy Bills:** Cooling bill savings up to 38%



POWER SAVER™ PROGRAM



\*some restrictions may apply

Visit [www.austinenergy.com](http://www.austinenergy.com) or call 974-7827.