

ENERGY STAR Benefits

What's in it for the homeowner?



Feeling good about the environment and doing all we can to look after the planet only makes good sense. So the environmental benefits of the ENERGY STAR for New Homes initiative is a big story. But it's not the only story - when you're out looking for a new home, you're looking for the right location, the right size, comfort, construction quality and design, and all that... at the right price.

And in all those areas, ENERGY STAR qualified new homes excel!

Peace of mind – just look for the blue label

It's the biggest investment of your life and more than that, it's the castle from which you protect and provide for all your family's needs. You may not need to know every technical detail of energy-efficient construction to appreciate that the ENERGY STAR label is a government backed initiative and really does deliver all the efficiency, comfort and financial benefits you're interested in. And if that sounds a bit like a dream-come-true-home... then you should go directly to the find a builder section and start hunting!

Save 10% on CMHC premiums and qualify for 35 year amortization saving on monthly payments.

Would you be willing to pay less?

From day one, with an ENERGY STAR qualified home, homeowners are saving money. Compared with standard homes, built to the minimum Ontario Building Code, ENERGY STAR qualified homes use substantially less energy for heating, cooling, hot water, lighting and appliances - you can expect to save approximately 30%* on your energy costs every month.

Quieter. Warmer. Cooler. Fresher.

By the nature of the advanced construction techniques employed, ENERGY STAR qualified homes are more comfortable in almost every way. In the winter they're warmer; in the summer cooler; they're quieter and draft free all year long. And, thanks to better ventilation, the environment is fresher and healthier.

Smart Money

As energy costs continue to soar, homes that fight back by reducing energy consumption will be prized. There are currently almost 200 builders across Ontario – including some of Canada's largest builders – who have partnered with EnerQuality to construct ENERGY STAR qualified homes. By the end of the decade, more than 50,000 homes are expected to have earned the ENERGY STAR for New Homes label. The trend is clear and there is no question, energy efficiency is a great investment and a smart buy!

Save the world?

Did you know that your home can be a greater source of pollution than your car? In fact, 17% of the greenhouse gas emissions in Canada are generated from the energy consumed in the home. And the energy used in the home comes from burning fossil fuels, which cause global warming. Simply put, the less energy we use in our homes, the less toll our planet has to pay. And ENERGY STAR qualified homes are responsible for 2-3 tonnes less greenhouse gas emissions!

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McFarland Construction There is a Difference

ENERGY STAR

What's under the skin?



Homes can earn the ENERGY STAR for New Homes label only after a neutral/3rd party verification. Independent Home Energy Evaluators conduct on-site testing and inspections to verify that the homes qualify. Invisible to the naked eye, most ENERGY STAR improvements are hidden 'under the skin' of your new home.

The Envelope Please...

Walls, insulation, roofing, windows and doors form your home's envelope. A 'tighter' envelope yields a more comfortable more energy efficient structure.

Effective Insulation

Properly installed, climate-appropriate insulation in floors, walls, attics and foundation ensures even, comfortable temperatures throughout the house and across the seasons. McFarland Construction insulates R-20 basement walls to R-50 attic insulation.

High-Performance Windows

Protective coatings, argon gas between the panes and improved frame assemblies all combine to create a technologically superior product that helps keep heat in the winter, keep it out in the summer and protect carpets, upholstery and artwork from damage by filtering the sun's destructive UV rays.

Tight Construction and Ducts

One of the secrets of an energy efficient home is to minimize the possibility of air (which has already been either heated in the winter or cooled in the summer) to leak out through unseen openings. Sealing holes and cracks in the home's "envelope" and in duct systems helps reduce drafts, moisture, dust, pollen, and noise. A tightly sealed home improves comfort and indoor air quality while reducing utility bills.

The Mechanicals...

Better and more energy efficient appliances, lighting and heating, air conditioning and ventilation make for a more comfortable, less costly home. ENERGY STAR qualified homes employ some of the most efficient systems on the market.

HVAC - Heating Ventilation and Cooling

High efficiency furnaces coupled with an HRV (Heat Recovery Ventilator found standard in McFarland homes) unit and a modern water heater do an amazing job of reducing energy waste from your home's biggest energy consumer. New technology furnaces are powerful, quiet and durable (less likely to require service). New furnaces burn fuel more efficiently producing a small fraction of the greenhouse gasses of older models.

Lighting and Appliances

ENERGY STAR qualified homes come equipped with ENERGY STAR qualified products — lighting fixtures, compact fluorescent bulbs, ventilation fans. These ENERGY STAR qualified products provide additional energy savings to the homeowner (while also helping the home earn its ENERGY STAR for New Homes label). Look for the ENERGY STAR qualified products when selecting items for your new home.

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