

Did You Know?

Heating and cooling can account for **more than half** of your annual energy cost.

The best way to change your energy footprint is to **conserve first**, implement **energy efficient** improvements second, and choose **renewables** third.

By making improvements for water efficiency at home you help prevent taxpayer dollars from going toward costly water infrastructure projects.

Onondaga County is a **national leader** in stormwater management. With your help, we can keep it that way.

A San Francisco study of the impact of community gardens found an increase in property values for properties within 1000 feet of a garden.

Studies estimating the impact of new tree plantings found an **increase** in surrounding property values of **two to ten percent**.

According to the Greater Syracuse Association of Realtors, homes with green improvements typically **sell faster** and for more money.

Learn More

Onondaga County Save the Rain
savetherain.us

EPA WaterSense
epa.gov/watersense

CNY Energy Challenge
cnyenergychallenge.org

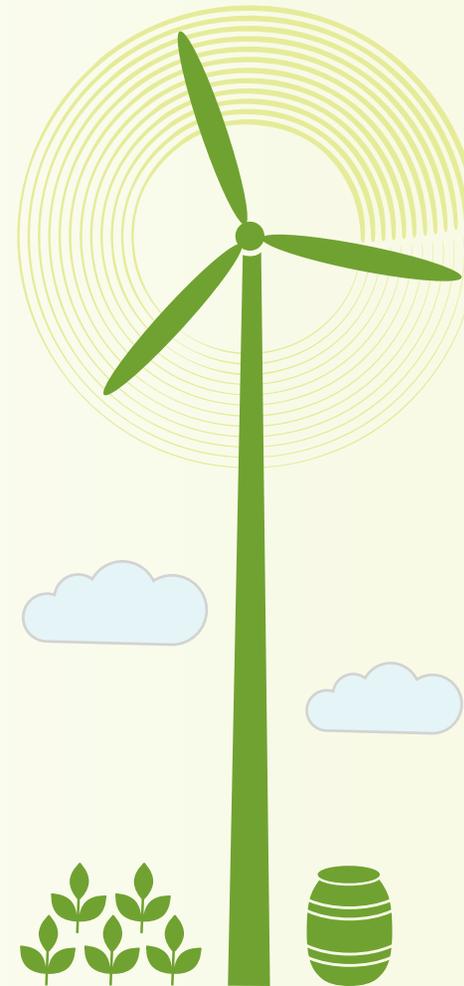
Energy Star
energystar.gov

NYSERDA
nysERDA.ny.gov

Green Your Home

Top Tips for Homeowners and Buyers

Go Green • Save Green



Water Efficiency Investments

Rain Barrel - Use rain water collected in a rain barrel to water your landscaping or wash your car.

Porous Pavement Driveway - Save taxpayer dollars by keeping stormwater on site and out of sewers. For as little as 10% more for materials, a 1,000 square foot pervious driveway will infiltrate over 12,000 gallons of water per year.

Low-Flow Faucets / Showerheads - For comparable prices, the average household could save more than 500 gallons per year with WaterSense labeled low-flow faucets and more than 2,300 gallons per year with WaterSense showerheads.

ENERGY STAR Washing Machine - Save an average of \$70 per year on utility bills with ENERGY STAR labeled products.

High-Efficiency Toilets - By replacing older toilets with WaterSense labeled models, the average family saves more than \$90 on utility bills each year, and more than \$2,000 over the lifetime of the toilets.

Other Investments

Vegetable Garden - A 600 square foot garden can provide \$600 worth of produce each year.

Eco-Friendly Cleaning Products - Protect your family's health and the environment with this inexpensive switch.

Zero VOC Paint / Natural Fiber Carpet & Upholstery - Choose these alternatives for healthier indoor air.

Alternative Roofing Materials - A metal roof can last 40 to 60 years.

Compost - Create compost with a freestanding pile or turning unit for use in your landscaping or vegetable garden.

Energy Efficiency Investments

Home Energy Assessment - Homeowners in NYS are eligible for a free or reduced cost energy assessment through the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Visit nyscrda.ny.gov to learn more. To conduct a simple assessment yourself, visit energysavers.gov.

ENERGY STAR Appliances - Appliances with the ENERGY STAR label use 20% less energy. Save over \$200 per year when you replace a refrigerator more than 10 years old.

CFL or LED Lighting - CFL and LED lighting fixtures use 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs.

Seal Leaks - Leaks can account for 30% of the heat loss in a typical home. Seal leaks with weather-stripping, caulk, or insulating spray foam sealant.

Did You Know...

Window replacements typically yield the lowest return on investment of all home energy upgrades, with a payback period that can take decades.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, about one-third of air leaks in the home can be attributed to openings in ceilings, walls, and floors.

The payback period for a new high-efficiency furnace is between four and five years

