# Residential

Is your home as efficient as possible? The most valuable energy is the energy you don't use. Even no-cost behavior changes like turning out the lights, can save energy, money and the environment. Check out the following resources to help you achieve a healthier home environment and greater energy security for future generations.

## ADVICE, TOOLS AND INSPIRATION.

- Kentucky Residential Energy Efficiency Potential, National Renewable Energy Laboratory U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Energy's <u>Energy Saver</u> program\_offers resources for products and services, heating and cooling, design, and tips to save electricity and fuel.
- <u>Energy Saver Guide</u> is available in English and Spanish and available for ordering, download, and as an e-book.
- EPA's <u>ENERGY STAR</u>, A personalized on-line tool for saving energy.
- ENERGY STAR, <u>Energy Savings at Home</u>.
- Energy saving tips don't have to be expensive. Download the Home Energy Tips fact sheet.

## WHERE TO START? MEASURE YOUR HOME ENERGY USE.



Know your strengths and weaknesses. Becoming aware of how you use energy is the first step to identifying ways to reduce use and costs. Here are three options: First, contact your local utility provider, or if you qualify for the low-income Weatherization Program, they may provide a professional assessment. You can do-it-yourself with one of the free, on-line tools listed below. Lastly, hire a qualified energy professional to conduct an on-site energy audit. We've provided several qualified service providers.

### Do It Yourself

**ENERGY STAR** Home Advisor, free federal program to create a profile of your home and prioritize list of energy-saving actions.

**ENERGY STAR** Home Energy Yardstick, also a free federal program to assess the energy efficiency of your home and see how it measures up.

#### Hire a Professional Home Energy Auditor

<u>Community Action Agency's in Kentucky</u> can help you locate who to contact in your county for Weatherization Assistance Programs. <u>BPI</u>, Building Performance Institute, provides certified professionals and contractors conduct a whole-home energy audit to find problems and prescribe solutions to improve the comfort, health, and energy efficiency of your home.

MACED, Mountain Association for Community Economic Development, energy programs work to promote energy efficiency in small businesses, homes and nonprofits in Appalachian Kentucky.

<u>RESNET</u>®, Residential Energy Services Network, an independent, non-profit organization committed to helping homeowners reduce the cost of their utility bills and making homes more energy efficient.

Weatherization Assistance Programs enable low-income families reduce their energy bills through energy efficiency.

#### UNDERSTAND YOUR UTILITY BILL.

Have you ever wondered how your utility bill is calculated? Many utility providers offer free, on-line assistance and helpful tips and resources on their websites. The Office of Energy Policy has resources available to help you understand your electricity bill.

## **NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION.**

**Building Institute of Central Kentucky** 

<u>U.S. Department of Energy Building America Solution Center</u> - Provides access to expert information on hundreds of high-performance construction topics, including air sealing and insulation, HVAC components, windows, indoor air quality, and much more. Click on the links below to explore the Solution Center. <a href="https://basc.pnnl.gov/">https://basc.pnnl.gov/</a>

Building Industry Association of Central Kentucky, trade association of new home and commercial building and remodeling in-

#### **ENERGY STAR**

Energy Efficient Home Design, U.S. Department of Energy