

# Consumers Energy All-Electric Multifamily Design Guide 

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## Introduction

In June 2021, Consumers Energy published an update to the Clean Energy Plan' to better serve the people, planet, and Michigan's prosperity over the next twenty years. The plan outlines a detailed strategy to meet their business owner's long-term needs by identifying the following goals to be achieved:

- Be one of the first utilities in the nation to go coal-free by 2025;
- Stay on the path to achieve net zero carbon emissions ( $\sim 60 \%$ carbon emissions reduction by 2025), and
- Build nearly 8,000 megawatts of solar energy to power Michigan's homes and businesses by 2040.

Consumers Energy's Zero Net Energy Companion Program was developed to assist new construction business owners in achieving ZNE and all-electric goals with the overarching mission of reducing dependency on greenhouse gases in alignment with the Clean Energy Plan's goals.

The purpose of this design guide is to be used as an accompanying handbook to Consumers Energy's ZNE Program and to promote market transformation through the education of building owners, developers, designers, and contractors on the financial, health and environmental benefits of building all-electric multifamily housing in Michigan. A Case Studies section is included to illustrate best practices, and an all-electric product guide of appliances can be referenced to substitute natural gas fueled systems in a multifamily development.

## Objectives

This design guideline is intended to be used as a reference for building owners and their design teams seeking to achieve an all-electric, zero net energy multifamily project. The guideline provides a pathway for Consumers Energy business owners to achieve this level of high performance by:

- Identifying the applicable new construction baseline and performance targets for multifamily building types in the Consumers Energy territory.
- Evaluating energy and cost savings for design strategies and processes.
- Recommending holistic energy efficiency measures that collectively meet the all-electric and ZNE-ready goal for a multifamily project.
- Providing actual examples of multifamily projects that are designed to or operating as allelectric buildings in cold-climate locations.
- Representing a range of all-electric appliances and technologies currently available in the residential and commercial marketplace.


## Why Are All-Electric Apartments Popular?

All-electric homes are well known in America: most homes have used electric water heaters since 1950, have used electric space heating since $1970^{2}$, and today electric stoves are now $61 \%$ of annual sales ${ }^{3}$ and electric laundry dryers are $88 \%$ of annual sales. ${ }^{4}$ Several benefits of all-electric homes are discussed below: they have less of an impact on the environment; are lower cost and faster to build for developers; and provide a healthier indoor environment to their occupants.

## Less Impact on the Environment

An all-electric home produces less total pollution compared to a mixed-fuel home (even when they use electricity created by a cleaner natural gas power plant) (Figure 1). This is mostly due to heat pumps being highly efficient ( $300 \%$ efficient vs. $95 \%$ efficient gas heating), most grids using some portion of renewable energy, and the methane leakage that occurs at natural gas power plants. ${ }^{5}$


Figure 1: Electrifying space and water heating with heat pumps can reduce average household GHG emissions in all states.
All-electric homes will continue to produce less emissions as the grid gets cleaner. In their latest Clean Energy Plan, Consumers Energy demonstrated their leadership in clean energy by forecasting renewable energy capacity levels of $42 \%$ and $56 \%$ in 2030 and 2040 respectively (currently the state of Michigan requires $15 \%$ of the state's electricity to come from renewable sources). ${ }^{6}$ This paves the way for all-electric homes to be completely powered by renewable energy generation in the future, an opportunity that mixed-fuel homes will never be afforded. The global community of cities, states and nations have identified building electrification as the fastest, least expensive, and most likely to succeed at reducing global emissions according to the Environmental Defense Fund. 7,8

## Lower Cost and Less Complex to Build

One in four homes is currently built all-electric. ${ }^{9}$ This trend began in the 1950s, and now electricity is the fuel with the largest market share growth since 2010 in almost every county in the United States, including most of Michigan. Building allelectric continues to grow nation-wide as developers and contractors continue to seek lower construction costs and complete their projects faster and with simpler infrastructure.
"The cost of bringing natural gas to a building site is expensive. And you can generate electricity with solar electric panels to lower bills. All-electric is what we call a no brainer."

## - Chris Dart, President of Danco <br> Communities, the largest rural


affordable housing developer in far Northern California


Figure 2: Michigan, like the rest of the U.S., has seen strong market share growth in Electric space heating (yellow), and declines in Natural Gas, Propane and Wood. ${ }^{10}$
The cost of installing natural gas infrastructure in Michigan to a multifamily development is paid in three pieces:

1. The natural gas service line from the street to the meter can be privately installed or by the trusted energy provider (Consumers Energy charges $\mathbf{\$ 2 0 0}$ ) but requires heavy machinery and a skilled crew spending 3-5 hours of work per building, plus the design, permitting and inspection time delays.
2. The natural gas plumbing within the building to natural gas appliances costs from $\mathbf{\$ 2 0 0 - \$ 8 0 0}$ per natural gas appliance, ${ }^{11}$ and requires more time for the design, construction, and inspections.
3. Natural gas combustion venting creates design challenges in apartments because of the requirement for venting to be 10' distant from windows and doors if vented horizontally or requires ventilation chases to the roof. The material, labor, design, and inspection of even a dryer vent costs between $\$ \mathbf{8 0}$ and $\$ 1,000,{ }^{12}$ and slows construction. Electric condensing and heat pump dryers require no vent at all.

## Netting a Profit with Solar Power on Michigan Multifamily Developments

Installing solar panels on apartments was so financially successful in California that it became a requirement of the building energy code in 2020 to install a roughly 2 kW solar array for every apartment in a 1-3 story development. Developers in Michigan can also adjust rents when upgrading in tenantserving solar electric arrays that are up to $150 \mathrm{~kW},{ }^{13}$ enough to $100 \%$ solar offset roughly 50 apartments. In both affordable ${ }^{14}$ and market rate multifamily housing, rents can be predictably adjusted to reflect the reduced bills from tenants' solar power. Increased rents result in an increased permanent loan that is greater than the cost of the solar array, thus netting a profit for the developer while still providing an equitable rent to occupants.

## Improved Tenant Comfort

Ensuring tenant comfort spans from making sure the equipment we use is efficient and provides heating or cooling when and where we want it, but also extends to the appliances we use every day. In 2020, Consumer Reports ranked the top 8 stoves, and the best stoves were electric induction stoves, ranked \#1-2, \#4-5, and \#8, with a smooth top electric resistance stove at \#6. Cooking with electricity means one has access to the best stoves on the market - the fastest, easiest to clean and most controllable stoves made. Heating your home with a heat pump can be similarly luxurious - a furnace turns on-and-off intermittently, blowing very-hot heat with a fan which can be noisy and cause disturbance, while a heat pump fan is always on at a quieter speed and evenly heats your home, so you are always comfortable. In addition, HVAC solutions like ductless mini splits provide heating and cooling control by room, making sure each room is comfortable for all occupants.

## Resilience of All-Electric Homes

All-electric homes can be built resiliently by insulating and air sealing to make sure temperatures stay stable during power restoration events, by having battery backup storage, and by reducing peak natural gas demand on the grid.

## Well insulated homes are more resilient during power restoration efforts.

During extreme cold weather events, like a polar vortex, the electrical grid can become strained and our homes ever more important as a shelter from the elements. Homes that have passive design features such as a high-performance envelope that can optimize the heat gain when it comes to exterior weather conditions are much more resilient than the contrary (uninsulated and leaky homes) during power restoration. One study modeled various homes and tracked indoor air temperatures during a power restoration and cold snap, it found that for a typical 1950's home with no insulation temperatures dropped below $40^{\circ}$ in only eight hours compared to a 2009 IECC code compliant building dropped below $40^{\circ}$ after 45 hours. ${ }^{16}$ The above and beyond the code minimum homes (a Net Zero Energy Ready home and a Passive House home) stayed above $40^{\circ}$ for 61 and 152 hours.


Figure 3: Modeled homes indoor air temperature - without power in an extreme cold climate event. ${ }^{16}$

Homes that are modestly insulated like the 2009 IECC code compliant home can protect their occupants for a few days, which covers the average power restoration in Michigan ( 97 minutes). ${ }^{17}$ Resilience can be built into homes (by having more insulation and better windows) and can provide a buffer of a few days from chilling outdoor temperatures during power restoration and cold weather event.

## Electric battery back-up can provide longer duration resilience during power restoration efforts

For longer restoration efforts, having an electric battery can power a home for multiple days. If homeowners are upgrading to an electric vehicle, their EV can also be used as a resilience feature by using it to power your home. Two companies are soon launching vehicle-to-home ( V 2 H ) charging in the United States (Wallbox and Ossiaco) but V2H charging has been common in other countries for years, providing people with essential back up power. For example, the Nissan Leaf has been able to power homes in Japan during restoration efforts, powering essential loads in the home for more than two days in one example. ${ }^{18}$

## Modern natural gas appliances need electricity

Even if loads in a home are powered by natural gas, modern natural gas appliances are reliant on electric components. For example, new natural gas furnaces and water heaters have an electric igniter and cannot be lit manually like older systems with a pilot light. Additionally, furnaces need an electric fan to blow heat around a house. Although gas stove tops will work in restoration situations, electric fans to vent out the harmful combustion pollution will not operate, along with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, so operating gas appliances can become unsafe.

## All-electric homes can reduce winter peak natural gas demand

Both the electric and natural gas power networks are strained during extreme cold weather events. The following chart shows the comparison of efficiencies for equipment used in the home. By using energy more effectively such as in the heat pump case, all-electric homes can reduce the need for natural gas for home heating during peak demands in the winter.

Figure 4: Comparison of energy efficiency ratio for equipment types in the home.
(Source: DNV for San Mateo County Electrification Study)


## Typical Multifamily Building Characteristics in Michigan

Multifamily buildings in Michigan range from large apartment complexes to smaller, town home style apartments, with a total of $13 \%$ of the building stock in $2017 .{ }^{20}$ Of these multifamily buildings in Michigan, $2.5 \%$ are 2 units, $2.6 \%$ are 3 or 4 units, $4.2 \%$ are 5 to 9 units, $3.6 \%$ are 10 to 19 units, and $5 \%$ are 20 or more units. 20 In the Midwest in general, the age of the multifamily building stock varies - however, peak multifamily construction was in the 1970s, and buildings have become bigger since


Figure 5: Fuel for space heating in Michigan residential homes in 2019. ${ }^{19}$ 2000 with more units and mid-size and smaller multifamily construction tapering off. 20 There has not been substantial energy efficiency measures in the multifamily building stock in the Midwest, most appliances are not ENERGY STAR® rated and there are not many programmable thermostats however some buildings had lighting upgrades, have double or triple pane windows, and report adequate insulation levels. ${ }^{20}$ For space heating in Michigan specifically: 76\% of homes are heated by natural gas, $10 \%$ by electricity, $8 \%$ by propane, $1 \%$ by fuel oil, and $4 \%$ are other from other sources (Figure 5). Since most of the residential buildings in Michigan are heated by natural gas, and a majority of the multifamily building stock is older, there is an opportunity for the new stock of multifamily buildings being built all-electric today to bring energy savings and improved comfort to the residents of Michigan.

## Overview of All-Electric HVAC Solutions

In the back of the guide is a comprehensive all-electric product guide; the tables below are summaries of all-electric solutions for multifamily application and their rated operating conditions. For each system, the heating capacities and the lowest ambient air temperature is provided. Some heat pumps do not have a low temperature cut off; however, their heating capacity will be reduced at lower temperatures. For the products that do cut off at lower temperatures, most have electric resistance back up that will work in any outdoor temperature. In a nutshell, heat pumps for space heating and domestic hot water are technically advanced to work in cold climates and are more efficient, comfortable, and cleaner than their natural gas equivalents.

Table 1: Overview and highlighted products for of HVAC, DHW, Cooking, and Laundry categories.

| HVAC Heat Pumps | Ductless | Ducted |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |


| Packaged Terminal Air Source Heat Pumps save $\sim 30 \%$ in installation costs compared to mini-split systems of the same size by avoiding installation costs of refrigerant lines. | HPAC 2.0 by Innova |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mini-Split Air Source Heat Pumps can provide more heat than packaged systems with their greater surface area; the narrow profile fits on rooftop parapet walls and patios of apartment buildings. | Arctic NextGen by Haier |  |
| Full Size Split Air Source Heat Pumps provide more heat than mini splits but at slightly lower efficiencies due to pumping refrigerant in VRFs and blowing air through ductwork. | Variable Refrigerant Flow 38VMH by Carrier |  |
| Hydronic Heat Pumps for Radiant Floors and Ductwork need 70F-130F from a Ground Source Heat Pump (e.g. Water Furnace), while Radiators require high temps (150F-180F) provided by a specialty hydronic heat pump (like the Transom Hatch). | 700 A 11 by Water Furnace | Transom Hatch |
| Domestic Hot Water | 1 to 2 Apartments | Central to All Apartments |
|  | Prestige by Rheem/Ruud | 020-050 line by Arctic |
| Cooking Ranges | Radiant | Induction |
|  | WFE320M0ES by Whirlpool | FFIF3054TS by Frigidaire |
| Laundry Dryers | Condensing Washer/Dryer | Heat Pump Dryer |


|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Table 2: Heating capacity and the lowest ambient air temperatures for various HVAC and DHW product types. The low temperature represents either a specific product or several products (refer to the full Product Guide at the end of this document for more information.

| HVAC Systems | Heating Capacity Range | Lowest Ambient Temperature |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Energy/Heat Recovery Ventilators with Heat Pumps | 5000-11,000 | No Low Temp |
| Packaged Terminal Air Source Heat Pumps | 3,000-12,000 | -14 |
| Mini-Split Air Source Heat Pumps | 7,000-60,000 | -31 |
| Split Ducted Heat Pumps | 19,000-60,000 | -10 |
| Variable Refrigerant Flow Heat Pumps | 72,000-400,000 | -13 |
| Hydronic Heat Pumps | 5,000-380,000 | -30 |
| Domestic Hot Water Systems | Heating Capacity Range | Lowest Ambient Temperature |
| Individual Tank Heat Pump Water Heaters | 4,000-15,000 | -30 |
| Large Central Heat Pump Water Heaters | 15,000-600,000 | -15 |

## New Construction Multifamily Building Characteristics

In 2017, Michigan adopted the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHRAE 90.1 2013 as its governing state-wide building energy codes. For this design guideline, we assumed that any recommended new building systems or components will at a minimum meet ASHRAE 2013 prescriptive requirements. For cases where the building component or system is recommended to exceed ASHRAE 90.12013 level performance, the increase in percentage or factor is noted.

## Modeling Analysis

To support the technical design solutions recommended in this all-electric design guide, an energy model representing a low-rise multifamily prototype building was developed. The 'Baseline' energy model was created as a representation of a new construction multifamily building that complies with the IECC 2015 minimum efficiency requirements. The 'Proposed' case represents the same building with a package of energy conservation measures (ECM) implemented to exceed the code minimum requirements.

## Methodology

A 'right steps', 'right order' approach was used in the energy savings and lifecycle cost analysis to accurately assess true savings of each recommended ECM:
a) Passive strategies
b) Improved Envelope
c) High Performance Systems
d) Renewables

Each of the ECMs (details of each provided below) were incrementally added to the Baseline model with the final Proposed case representing a complete package of high-performance design measures. Two pathways were modeled for the cooling, heating, and hot water system ECMs: 'high efficiency' and 'premium'. The purpose in analysing both high efficiency and premium tiers was to provide a comparison of energy and cost saving options available on the market for building owners.

## Energy Modeling Simulation Engine

Rem/Rate 16.0.4 was used as the modeling software to conduct the energy calculations for this design guide. The Rem/Rate software suite was chosen as it allows for full consideration of dynamic thermal performance of a multi-story residential building and offers a wide variety of analyses, including but not limited to the following:

- U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR® Certified Homes v3.x and Multifamily New Construction v1.x Home Analysis
- DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Certification
- Energy code compliance (IECC 1998-2018)
- Heating and cooling equipment sizing

The specific outputs used for the energy and cost analysis will be discussed in detail in the results section of this guide.

## Weather

The Grand Rapids weather station was selected as a representative climate zone for Consumers Energy territory. The weather data contains records on solar radiation, temperature, humidity, sunshine duration and wind speed and direction. The energy model uses the normalized weather data for its annual simulation that informs climate-specific energy efficiency recommendations.

The ambient temperature conditions experienced in Grand Rapids, Michigan over the course of one year are illustrated in the chart below:

Figure 6: Annual Ambient Dry Bulb Temperature for Grand Rapids


## Baseline Conditions

Table 3: New Construction, Baseline Low-rise Multifamily Building Assumptions


- Roof: Above deck insulation, with Attic, vented. R38 batt Insulation and R - 13 continuous insulation
- Exterior walls: wood frame $2 \times 4$ fiberglass with minimum of R13 batt insulation and R-7.5 continuous insulation
- Infiltration: 0.2 Air Changes/Hour (ACH)
- Glazing: Double pane, U value $=0.55 \mathrm{Btu} / \mathrm{h} \cdot \mathrm{ft}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{SHGC}=0.32$
- A minimum of $75 \%$ of the lamps in permanently installed lighting fixtures are high-efficacy lamps or $75 \%$ of permanently installed lighting fixtures contain only high efficacy lamps
- Occupancy controls or time-switch controls in common areas
- Daylighting controls: daylight responsive controls in daylight zones
- Exterior lighting: 600W individual lighting allowance
- Air distribution system: Multi-zone air-handling units
- Heating/Cooling system: Packaged Terminal Heat Pump per dwelling unit. Min. efficiency required by IECC 2015/ASHRAE 2013
- Domestic hot water: in unit electric resistance storage water heaters. Min. efficiency required by IECC 2015/ASHRAE 2013


## Energy Conservation Measures

To align with the Consumers Energy Zero Net Energy Companion Program energy targets, the energy performance of the Proposed building design is targeting the following criteria:

- Annual energy use intensity (EUI) of $25 \mathrm{kBtu} / \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ and at least a $40 \%$ annual energy savings reduction
- The proposed project must use $100 \%$ electricity (i.e., no natural gas, propane or district heating used onsite)
- New construction multifamily building type

The ECMs identified are specific to the Consumers Energy territory and incorporate strategies that reduce the building's energy use. There were two paths investigated for HVAC/DHW system efficiency measures. The first is a high efficiency HVAC system and a high efficiency water heater solution (ECM 6a \& ECM7a) which will be considered as the 'Better' proposed case in this design guide. The second, a premium efficiency HVAC and premium efficiency heat pump water heater solution (ECM 6b \& 7b) which will be referred to as the 'Best' recommended design case. The purpose in analyzing both pathways was to ensure maximizing efficiency of the equipment's impact is accounted for both in terms of customer payback period as well as the projected annual energy savings.

Figure 7: Recommended Energy Conservation Measures


Each of these improvements, referred to as energy conservation measures (ECMs), have been modeled as cumulative iterations to the Baseline model.

## Additional Considerations

Through an integrated, whole building design process the building owner and design team should consider all available passive and active strategies to achieve the optimal energy performance for their project. The following measures and recommendations are listed as additional options to further
reducing building's energy use. Although they were not considered part of the detailed energy analysis for this design guideline, strategies to improving the thermal performance of these components have been provided below.

## Insulating the Foundation

Thermal heat transfer through the foundation can be controlled by providing insulation between the interior and exterior environment. However, in some existing buildings insulation below the foundation may not exist. Insulating existing foundations can be an expensive and time-consuming process that involves locating existing utilities, excavating around the foundation perimeter, adding perimeter drainage, installing waterproofing membranes, installing rigid insulation along the perimeter walls and footings.

For this reason, this guideline does not recommend insulating existing foundations as an energy efficiency measure to target zero net energy. Instead, the recommendation is to evaluate improving the thermal resistance of the walls and roof of the existing building.

## Shading

The use of shading devices can significantly reduce the amount of solar heat gain through openings in the building envelope. By intercepting sunlight before it reaches the walls and windows, shading devices can reduce the amount of cooling required by mechanical systems and improve the light quality of the indoor environment. Carefully designed sun control devices can allow solar radiation during the winter season when sunlight is desired to passively heat a building. Exterior shading is also used to control glare in interior spaces which can result in increased visual comfort and productivity. Additionally, shading devices can be used as design features to increase the visual appeal of building facades and provide additional mounting locations for solar photovoltaic panels.

Although not considered a specific ECM for this study, exterior and interior shading design is recommended as an effective strategy to improve the thermal performance of the building's envelope and therefore reducing a building's energy use overall. Additionally, it can improve the visual comfort for the occupants by blocking direct light and reducing glare conditions on work surfaces. It is recommended that design teams perform a solar shading analysis using daylight (or equivalent façade) modeling software so that the sun's position at various times of the day for each orientation can be assessed and the optimal solution for shading each façade is achieved.

## Summary of Analysis

The results of this analysis conducted for this design guide can be summarized by looking at three components: energy and cost, greenhouse gas emissions and on-site solar generation. All three demonstrate that the Proposed 'Best' solution as being the most favorable pathway to achieving an all-electric, low-energy consuming, building design. It is important to note that the analysis followed to assess the energy and greenhouse gas footprint of the proposed solution should be considered as part of the decision-making process for the building owner and project teams. A successful multifamily building does not only have a lower carbon and energy footprint but over its longevity provides a livable, working space that positivity contributes to the health and comfort of the occupants and the surrounding environment.

## Energy \& Cost

The following section lists the predicted annual energy use intensity ( $\mathrm{kBtu} / \mathrm{ft}{ }^{2}$ ) and energy savings for the multifamily building through cumulative implementation of the recommended energy conservation measures. The results demonstrate that if the Better design pathway is followed, the projected annual energy use intensity is $27.7 \mathrm{kBtu} / \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ which results in total annual energy savings of $36.2 \%$ when compared to the baseline building energy use. If the Best design solution is chosen, then
the resulting annual energy use intensity is approximately $25.5 \mathrm{kBtu} / \mathrm{ft}^{2}$, which equals an energy reduction of $41.3 \%$ when compared to the baseline building energy use.

The table and chart below illustrate the annual energy use intensity and cumulative reduction because of implementing the recommended ECMs.

Table 4: Annual Energy Use Intensities and Cumulative Energy Savings for Baseline and ECM Iterations

|  | Energy Use Intensity (kBłt/fi²) | Annual Cumulative Energy Savings <br> $(\%)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| BASELINE - Low-Rise Multifamily <br> Building | 43.4 | - |
| ECM 1 - ROOF INSULATION and <br> EXTERIOR WALL INSULATION | 42.9 | $1.2 \%$ |
| ECM 2 - HIGH PERFORMANCE <br> GLAZING | 41.9 | $3.4 \%$ |
| ECM 3 - HIGH EFFICIENCY <br> APPLIANCES | 37.7 | $13.2 \%$ |
| ECM 4 - LED INT. LIGHTING | 37.0 | $14.7 \%$ |
| ECM 5 - HEAT RECOVERY <br> VENTILATION | 35.6 | $18.0 \%$ |
| ECM 6A - HIGH EFFICIENCY WATER <br> HEATING | 28.0 | $35.6 \%$ |
| ECM 7A - HIGH EFFICIENCY MINI <br> SPLIT (BEIIIR DESIGN CASE) | 27.7 | $36.2 \%$ |
| ECM 6B - PREMIUM EFFICIENCY <br> WATER HEATING | 26.3 | $39.4 \%$ |
| ECM 7B - PREMIUM EFFICIENCY <br> MINI SPLIT (BEST DESICN CASE) | 25.5 | $41.3 \%$ |

Figure 8: Energy Use Intensity by Energy Conservation Measure and End-Use


For the financial analysis, the isolated and cumulative payback for each measure was calculated. The length of payback is compared against the measure's expected life as a performance assurance test for each of the recommended ECMs. For example, if an ECM's calculated payback is greater than the measure's expected life then there is very low probability that a building owner would agree to it unless there are other non-energy benefits associated. Each building owner would have their own definition of a reasonable payback for their project, and therefore, the results presented in the table below are intended to be a guide only. It is recommended that each project conduct their own costbenefit analysis that is specific to their project, location and sustainability goals.

Table 5: Isolated and Cumulative Simple Payback by Energy Conservation Measure

|  | Expected Measure Life (years)¹ | Isolated Simple Payback (years) | Cumulative Simple Payback (years) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ECM 1 - IMPROVED THERMAL INSULATION | 40 (building life) | 32 | 32 |
| ECM 2 - HIGH PERFORMANCE GLAZING | 40 (building life) | 20 | 26 |
| ECM 3 - HIGH EFFICIENCY APPLIANCES | 11 | 5 | 11 |
| ECM 4 - LED LIGHTING \& SMART PLUG LOAD | 15 | 2 | 10 |
| ECM 5 - HEAT RECOVERY VENTILATION | 15 | 3 | 9 |
| ECM 6A - HIGH EFFICIENCY HOT WATER | 10 | 6 | 8 |
| ECM 6B - PREMIUM EFFICIENCY HOT WATER | 10 | 6 | 7 |
| ECM 7A - HIGH EFFICENCY MINI SPLIT SYSTEM (BEITER DESIGN CASE) | 15 | 9 | 8 |
| ECM 7B - PREMIUM EFFICIENCY MINI SPLIT SYSTEM (BEST DESIGN CASE) | 15 | 8 | 8 |

The table lists the envelope upgrades (ECM 1 \& 2) with a significantly higher isolated and cumulative payback when compared to the other ECMs. Improving the thermal performance of a building's envelope can be costly and not always provide an adequate amount of energy savings to give a reasonable payback for the owner. Primarily this is because building energy efficiency codes are already requiring a tight envelope with continuous insulation rated at a high thermal resistance (Rrating) in all roof, wall and floor constructions. For example, in this analysis of a multifamily building located in Climate Zone 5A, the IECC 2015 requires a minimum of R-38 batt insulation in the roof and R-19 for external walls with a minimum R-7 to be continuous. Therefore, adding supplemental insulation above what is already required by code results in minimal energy savings (only $1.2 \%$ annually) as the thermal performance of the envelope levels out. Consequently, generating a much higher payback for the measure.

Similarly, the results for ECM 2, the high-performance glazing measure, are another example of unfavorable payback when considering annual energy savings against first costs. Glazing is one of the most expensive components to a building's construction and the addition of a third pane, as recommended in this measure, means that the glass is filled with krypton gas which is much more expensive than argon (typical for double pane glazing). The weight of the windows increases significantly too when adding a third pane to the assembly which effects the installation costs on site.

Further, when selecting a suitable glazing product in a cold climate such as Michigan, it is important to consider both the thermal conductance (U-value) and solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) of the glass and total assembly. For example, choosing a glazing product that has low SHGC such as triple pane windows may not always be the best solution in cold climates during winter as it means that very minimal solar energy is coming through the envelope when heating is needed the most. As a result, the energy savings that are generated in summer are offset by the increase in heating energy required during winter.

Both the high first costs and small energy savings for ECM 2 results in a higher payback compared to the other measures.

It is well documented that optimizing a building envelope's thermal performance based on the climate will generate additional benefits for the building owner beyond just annual energy savings. ${ }^{21}$ A

[^0]continuously insulated and airtight building skin will result in lower operational and improvement costs over the course of the building's life and provide ongoing non-energy benefits such as thermal and visual comfort for the occupants, improved indoor air quality and overall building resiliency.

For multifamily buildings especially, the occupants (tenants) appreciate the value of living in a building that improves their overall health, comfort, and well-being in conjunction with lower monthly costs. Moreover, a tenant is more likely to live longer in a sustainable building which provides higher rent retention for the developer. ${ }^{22}$

Peter Skornia, President of Bazzani Building Company, a prominent multifamily developer in Michigan has spoken about their decision process when it came to envelope design criteria on the Bradford Station project:
"Balancing first and operational cost, tenant features and affordability are key to any successful development. Providing a good thermal envelope, lots of natural light and energy efficient building systems means tenants have a safe, comfortable place to live and work, supporting high tenant retention and improved profits."

Both the 'Better' and 'Best' cases are holistic solutions for building owners that are seeking to decarbonize their building's energy footprint, obtain significant annual energy savings for a reasonable payback. Adoption of the 'Better' design solution will generate a cumulative payback of 8 years and, implementing the recommended 'Best' design solution will also result in a similar cumulative payback. This demonstrates that the delta in annual energy savings and capital costs between the two design solutions is relatively consistent.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The GHG emissions for the Baseline and the two proposed design cases were calculated and evaluated against an equivalent IECC 2015 Baseline mixed-fuel multifamily building.

The following chart shows the comparison between the four buildings in terms of the greenhouse gas emissions consumed on an annual basis. It demonstrates that the "Proposed 'Best' Design" case emits $14.8 \mathrm{MTCO}_{2} \mathrm{e}$ of greenhouse gases annually, a $52.1 \%$ reduction when compared to the mixedfuel baseline and $41 \%$ reduction when compared to the all-electric Baseline.


## On-Site Solar Generation

Although the ZNE program is unable to provide business owners with renewable incentives due to the program's regulatory structure, the generation of electricity on site is a key component to any zero net energy project. On-site solar generation (through photovoltaic arrays installed on the roof) was calculated to offset the 'Best' design's annual energy use and achieve zero net energy for the building. A $38 \mathrm{~kW}{ }^{2}$ solar array was calculated to generate enough electricity to offset $100 \%$ of the Best design's projected annual energy use ( $25.5 \mathrm{kBtu} / \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ ).

The addition of a solar array also has a great impact on shortening the payback period of the cumulative measure cost for the 'Best' design. It is calculated that with the renewable energy generation on site, the cumulative payback period for the project is reduced to 6 years.

[^1]

## Conclusion

This design guideline provides a detailed roadmap for a building owner and design team to achieve zero net energy ready on a low-rise multifamily building project in Michigan. As proven through the modeling analysis in this design guide, when the recommended energy conservation measures are implemented, the resulting design solutions (Better and Best) will significantly reduce the energy footprint of the building.

All recommendations listed in this design guideline encourage a healthy and relatively comfortable place for multifamily occupants. On top of the considerable energy savings, the ZNE ready all-electric approach brings benefits such as thermal comfort, increased building resiliency, dependable space conditioning, water heating and lower greenhouse gas emissions. The incorporation of the recommended design elements and systems into the project's design and construction will help in assuring that the building will not only be enjoyed by the residents but a more resilient building design to be enjoyed in comfort by future occupants. The 'All-Electric Product Guide' included in the next section provides a catalog of available, all-electric products that can be used in multifamily projects.

## Case Studies

The case studies below provide examples of all-electric homes in the Midwest and north east regions of the United States, showing that all-electric buildings are efficient, comfortable, and affordable, even in the coldest climates. Solara, Bank Flats, and the R-951 Residence were all built to meet the Passive House standard - they take insulation and air tightness to the next level which can reduce the size of the mechanical equipment and hold indoor temperatures for longer when the power goes out. These case studies show that meeting the most stringent envelope building certifications can be cost effective for developers. However, the case studies shown located in Michigan prove that buildings do not need extremely high levels of insulation and building tightness to be cost effective for developers, efficient in operation to keep bills low, and comfortable for their residents.

## Downtown Ludington Apartments, Ludington, Michigan and Capital Park Apartments, Defroit, Michigan

Both the Ludington and Capital Park Apartments by Concept Design Studios are all-electric multifamily projects located in Michigan. They are shown together because their building specifications are similar - above code insulation (R26 walls, R47 attics), with code minimum efficiency heat pumps for heating and cooling, electric resistance water heaters, $100 \%$ LED lighting and exhaust only ventilation. Even without a solar array, the energy bills are still an affordable \$60-70 per month (Estimate for Ludington is show in below).

Downtown Ludington, Michigan offers 30 affordable apartments for small families and senior citizens, with commercial spaces for rent on the ground floor. The complex's location reduces vehicle miles traveled and is rich with walking distance amenities, only 7 blocks east of Lake Michigan and centrally located around restaurants, cafes, and shops. Similarly, Capital Park has a comparable number of units and is located near the facilities of downtown Detroit.


Figure 11: The Downtown Ludington Apartments in Michigan (top). The exterior view of Capital Park Apartments in Detroit and heat pumps on the roof (bottom two)

Table 6: Summary of the building specifications of the Downtown Ludington Apartments

|  | 1 Bedroom | 2 Bedroom |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Conditioned Area | 712 sq. ft. | $973 \mathrm{sq} . \mathrm{ft}$. |
| Window Specs | U-value: 0.29, SHGC: 0.21 | U-value: 0.29, SHGC: 0.21 |
| Wall and Attic <br> Insulation | R-26/R-47 | R-26/R-47 |
| Air-Source Heat Pump | Heating: 8.2 HSPF, AC: 14 SEER | Heating: 8.2 HSPF, AC: 14 SEER |
| Resistance Water <br> Heater | $0.93 \mathrm{EF}, 40$ gallons | $0.93 \mathrm{EF}, 40$ gallons |
| Ventilation System | Exhaust Only, 41 cfm, 3.2watts | Exhaust Only $62 \mathrm{cfm}, 4.6$ watts |
| Lighting | $100 \%$ LED lighting | $100 \%$ LED lighting |
| Estimated Energy Costs | $\$ 59 /$ month; $\$ 705 /$ year | $\$ 73 /$ month; $\$ 877 / y e a r$ |

The lessons learned on these projects was that it was lower cost to install a right-sized heat pump than an incorrectly sized gas furnace. Even the smallest gas furnace produces too much heat for code minimum modern apartments, unless one wants to buy an expensive modulating furnace. When a heating system is designed correctly, careful attention is paid to the heating requirement of the home (which depends on the building characteristics like insulation levels, location of the building, etc.). For an apartment with above code insulation, many furnaces are oversized, meaning they will provide too much heat to the space which may cause the furnace to turn on and off more than necessary and will be uncomfortable to its users. Heat pumps provide continuous heat at just the right temperature instead of blasting high heat on-and-off intermittently like furnaces. The better choice for cost and comfort is a heat pump that already has modulating capabilities (it can increase or decrease its amount of heating depending on outside temperatures). Additionally, heat pumps have heating and cooling built into them, so you get the benefit of two machines in one. In summary, all-electric construction with typical yet efficient building practices is achievable with low monthly energy bills for residents.

## Port Crescent Apartments, Port Crescent, Michigan (Retrofit)

In 2018/19 this apartment complex was substantially renovated in accordance with the Home Innovation, National Green Build Standards. The major changes that were done to improve energy, material, and resource use included: replace unit entry doors and hardware with steel fiberwood door with an $R$ Value of 1.8 , install new unit carpet in 18 units, replace heating systems in all units, install new water heaters in all units, install new light fixtures in all units and the community building, blow in additional attic insulation, new sinks and faucets in all units, install new shower heads, spouts, and toilets in all units, and replace bathroom vent fans in all units. Various audits were performed on different unit types before


Figure 12: The Port Crescent Apartments and after renovations were made.
7 shows the energy use and cost for a one-bedroom unit before and after the renovations.

Table 7: Energy use and cost before and after the Port Crescent retrofit.

| Annual Costs (\$/yr.) | Before Renovation | After Renovation | Savings | Percent Savings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Methane Cost | 132 | 0 | 132 | 100\% |
| Total Electricity Cost | 600 | 537 | 63 | 11\% |
| Space Heating | 148 | 188 | -40 | -27\% |
| Space Cooling | 0 | 13 | -13 | --- |
| Water Heating | 164 | 139 | 25 | 15\% |
| Lights \& Appliances | 419 | 197 | 222 | 53\% |
| Service Charge | 120 | 60 | 60 | 50\% |
| Total (\$/yr.) | 1583 | 1134 | 449 | 28\% |
| Annual End-Use Energy Use (kWh) | Before Renovation | After Renovation | Savings | Percent Savings |
| Heating | 206 | 2351 | -2145 | -1041\% |
| Cooling | 0 | 166 | -166 | --- |
| Water Heating | 2052 | 1733 | 319 | 16\% |
| Lights \& Appliances | 5243 | 2464 | 2779 | 53\% |
| Total (kWh) | 7501 | 6714 | 787 | 10\% |

The lessons learned on this project was that going all-electric reduced the total energy bill of a onebedroom apartment by $28 \%$ ( $\$ 450$ dollars per year) and reduced the amount of energy used by $10 \%$, even after adding cooling. The changes that reduced the energy bill the most were the lighting and appliance updates and the change in service charge cost.

## Bradford Station, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Michigan is ranked as one of the top ten coldest states in the United States. In January, the coldest month, temperatures frequently drop down below $0^{\circ}$ F and can even go as low as $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. It can be hard to imagine how buildings and homes can be built to zero carbon specifications with a high heating load. However, Bazzani Building Company is proving that to be more than possible. One of their latest projects, the Bradford Station is a prime example of their goal to do what is best for the environment and residents. Bradford Station, opened in Fall 2020, is a 16,500 square foot allelectric building offering 23 studios and onebedroom apartments, and a ground floor retail space. It is on track to be LEED certified and Zero Carbon. Each apartment has a selfcontained HVAC system, meaning there is no mixing of air or bacteria between apartments. To achieve this high standard of ventilation, there is an energy recovery ventilator in each apartment which also provides the required ventilation per code. Each apartment has a dedicated mini-split heat pump that will provide adequate heating and cooling to meet the occupant's thermal comfort needs.


Figure 13: Bradford Station rendering and post construction in Grand Rapids, Michigan

This was Bazzani's first all-electric apartment complex, and they want to do all-electric again, although next time with heat pump water heaters instead of electric resistance water heaters to have additional energy savings.

Key design and construction partners for the HVAC and electrical systems in the project:
Mechanical Contractor - Hendricks Heating and Air Conditioning
Electrical Contractor - Hardy Electric
MEP Consultant - MJW Design

| HVAC | Mini-split heat pump system <br> Heating Efficiency: 12 HSPF <br> ERV providing ventilation in each unit |
| :--- | :--- |
| DHW | Electric Resistance Water Heater |$|$| Eooking | Flat top electric stove/oven combo <br> Exterior Walls: Wood frame with R21 batt <br> insulation and additional 2" of continuous <br> insulation <br> Roof: Flat built-up roof with R38 batt insulation <br> and low solar reflectance index rating on the <br> exterior |
| :--- | :--- |

## Solara Luxury Apartments, Rotterdam, New York

Solara Luxury Apartments is an 11-building, all-electric, 100\% solar offset, Passive House development in Rotterdam, New York - a bedroom community to the adjacent state capital, Albany. This "eco-luxury" development targets professionals, families, and seniors.
Solara has above code insulation in the walls (~R27R34) and in the roof ( $\sim$ R39-R50) and uses ductless mini splits for heating and cooling - one for each apartment and hallway.


Figure 14: Aerial view of the Solara Luxury Apartments.

Solara has a unique domestic hot water (DHW) design - it uses both solar thermal heating and an air-to-water heat pump as a back-up system during the winter months. Peter Skinner (E2G Solar LLC) is an advanced solar designer with over a decade in the field and is the co-author of Solar Hot Water Fundamentals - a textbook for SHW designers and installers. The Solara development has allowed him to experiment and iteratively improve his cold climate water heating designs, thanks to a supportive client and from collecting a great deal of performance data. In addition to just efficient hot water heating equipment, the hot water distribution was carefully designed to save both energy and water. (Designed by both Peter Skinner with mentorship from Gary Klein, a leading DHW researcher and plumbing designer). The distribution network design assures hot water arrival times in less than 15 seconds with sufficient pressure for excellent shower experience (despite low municipal

Table 9: Solara Apartments building specifications.
\(\left.\left.$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline \text { HVAC } & \begin{array}{l}\text { One single head mini split per apartment } \\
\text { and one per corridor } \\
\text { ERVs for each apartment and each } \\
\text { corridor }\end{array} \\
\hline \text { DHW } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Solar thermal with heat pump water } \\
\text { heater back up }\end{array} \\
\hline \text { Cooking } & \text { Electric }\end{array}
$$ \right\rvert\, \begin{array}{l}Windows: Paradigm double pane <br>
\hline Wall: Closed cell spray foam in walls (3-4 <br>

Enches) with 1-inch Polyiso ZIP sheathing (R\end{array}\right\}\)| 26.6-33.6) |
| :--- |
| Roof: 6-8-inch Polyiso boards on top of |
| sheathing |
| (R 39.2-50.4) | pressures) and very low recirculation losses.

The lessons learned in the Solara Luxury Apartments project was that efficient plumbing reduces costs, solar thermal hot water systems are beneficial, and that equipment efficiency drops in cold climates. The efficient plumbing design and fixtures at Solara allow the 24 apartments in each building to be supported with just a $2-3$-ton ( $24-36 \mathrm{kBTU} / \mathrm{hr}$.) air-to-water heat pump in winter months, and a modest 14 panel solar thermal array for spring, summer, and fall. The heat pump cost Pete about $\$ 10,000$ to install - just $\$ 416$ per apartment because of all the efficiency measures. Solara's low-flow fixtures and $3 / 8$ " twig delivery piping uses significantly less hot water and delivers it much faster than standard designs, while reducing heating loads enough to save heat pump, solar array and hot water storage costs.

A large and highly insulated ( 1200 gallon) solar thermal heat vault acts as a multiday thermal battery. The recirculation loop temperature management system only operates when the trunk lines fall below a minimal temperature and only for a few minutes per recirculation loop. Pete is paid to provide these solar energy services and maintains the system regularly for optimum performance. In spring, summer and fall a 14-panel solar hot water system serves as the primary hot water heat source, nearly eliminating water heating bills from May through October. The 14 flat panels per building drain back to the basement to a 1200-gallon tank with heat exchanger coils suspended inside. Even on a sunny day in November, this system can collect the heat needed to serve the tenants for 1-2 days.

When first installed, the $1.5 \mathrm{gal} / \mathrm{min}$ showers did not work as expected. The problem was traced to the shower valve body, whose internal bore hole was too small. Pete resolved the problems by


Figure 15: Pete Skinner with the Solara heat pumps. installing different Neoperl showerhead inserts and will substitute better showerheads in the next phase. After testing numerous brands in a custom lab setting at various pressures, Pete and Gary were able to identify brands that performed much better, including Moen, Kohler, and Delta Classic. Showerheads are tested at 80 psi, which is the highest pressure allowed to be delivered to a building, but not at real world pressures of $26-60$ psi. The showerhead brands mentioned created half as much pressure drop compared to other brands.

After seeing two air-source heat pump brands provide lower than rated hot water delivery during cold weather, Peter has tested three different "cold-climate" air-to-water heat pumps and found that some drop their production by half in 10-degree weather, while others do better in colder weather. The Arctic, a Canadian brand, and the Chilltrix, an American brand in Virginia, maintained better efficiency and higher heat output at 10-degree weather. Both products use R410A refrigerant, which generally does not get water hotter than $130^{\circ}$ F degrees (Aermec goes to 140 F ), so to keep the water free of diseases such as Legionella, these heat pumps must be paired with electric resistance tanks to regularly bump up the water temperatures to setpoints between 130-140 degrees.

## Front Flats, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Onion Flats LLC is a development team of three brothers who respectively lead the architecture, construction and sales of Zero Net Energy, Passive House certified housing in Philadelphia and nearby towns. Not only are their buildings examples of Best Practices at work, but their pricing is the same as standard construction in Philadelphia at just $\$ 170$ per square foot due to their integrated design and construction process, and cost savings from standardization of Passive House in their developments.

Front Flats in Philadelphia, PA, is covered with solar panels on the South, West, and East sides as well as the roof, powering four floors of market rate residences, ground floor commercial spaces and electric car parking spaces while still providing a rooftop garden. The solar array panels are bi-facial, meaning they can collect energy from the sun from both faces of the panel, and the total array is predicted to produce $20 \%$ more energy than the building consumes and has a total size of 172 kW. ${ }^{23}$

The building components include an airtight envelope, high performance double paned windows, a Minotair HVAC system that combines heating, cooling, dehumidification, and fresh air ventilation into one unit, and Rheem heat pump water heaters - two for every four apartments. The Minotair system is particularly innovative because it provides whole house ventilation, whole house dehumidification (without heating), can have a MERV 15 air filter, can exhaust up to three bathrooms and the kitchen, as well as providing 8,700 BTU/hr of heating capacity with a COP 3.0 and 11,200 BTU/hr of cooling capacity at a COP 3.3, which is not typical for HRVs to have all these capabilities.


Figure 16: Aerial view of the solar-clad Front Flats, the kitchen with electric radiant range and solar-shaded rooftop garden.

Figure 16). The Front Flats DHW
plumbing design also takes energy efficiency a step further; the returning hot water is piped within the supply hot water pipe, to greatly reduce heat loss, a strategy known as "pipe-in-pipe" design.

There are numerous lessons learned for this project. The first, wall-mounted and rooftop canopy PV arrays are cost-effective and can provide shading benefits to the building and common spaces. The second, 80-gallon heat pump water heater tanks, plumbed in series with two tanks serving four apartments and distributed in vertical stacks with "pipe-in-pipe" design, are the least cost heat pump water heater design and highly efficient. (Instead of doing a larger, single centralized heat pump water heater system that serves all units). Lastly, Passive House design, once standardized for cost containment, is appropriate for affordable housing as well as market rate housing, although this project narrowly missed the official certification of LEED Platinum.

Table 10: Front flash building components.

| HVAC | Minotair HRV and heat pump <br> Heating capacity: 8,700 BTU/hr (COP <br> $3.0)$ <br> Cooling capacity: 11,200 BTU/hr (COP <br> 3.3) |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | Rheem 80-gallon heat pump water <br> heaters, one for every two apartments, <br> pipe-in-pipe plumbing design |
|  | Electric Radiant |
| Envelope | Walls: dense packed cellulose R33 <br> Roof: dense packed cellulose R53 <br> Windows: U-Value 0.2 |

## R-951 Residence, Brooklyn, New York

The R-951 Residence, located in Brooklyn, is the first of its kind in New York City to achieve passive house and net-zero capable certifications. ${ }^{24}$ The four-story 5,600 square foot residence includes three 1,500 square-foot 3-bedroom lofts, generating most of its power from the rooftop solar system that provides each residence with 4 kW of grid-tied electricity. This design achieves $75 \%$ reduction of typical building energy use for heating, cooling, and lighting which is then offset by 12.5 kW of solar. The building is well insulated and tightly sealed, therefore most of the heating and cooling needs are met with a Zehnder energy recovery ventilation system in each unit, which also filters the air, recovers moisture to manage indoor relative humidity, and will save up to $90 \%$ of space heating and cooling costs. Any additional heat needed is provided by a small Mitsubishi air source heat pump in each apartment and domestic hot water is provided with a Stiebel Eltron 80-gallon heat pump water heater in each unit, a stark contrast to the fossil fuel burning boilers that are typical in New York. Since the project met Passive House standards, particular attention was paid to the building envelope; it uses insulated concrete forms (Styrofoam blocks filled with cement), state-ofthe art R-9 Tilt and Turn windows, air sealing (with Pro Clima tape and spray foam) and meticulous detailing to prevent thermal bridging, all to reach an ACH 50 of 0.28 . Other highlights that ensure tenant comfort are the daylighting,
improved indoor air quality from not burning gas indoors and proper ERV ventilation, and an exceptionally quiet living space which is unique to

Table 11: Building specifications for the R-951 Residence.

| HVAC | Mitsubishi Air Source Heat Pumps (cooling capacity $34,400 \mathrm{BTU} / \mathrm{hr}$, heating capacity 20,300 BTU/hr, 2.7 COP) <br> Zehnder Comfoair 350 Energy Recovery System |
| :---: | :---: |
| DHW | 80-gallon Stiebel Eltron Accelera 300 Heat Pump Water Heaters (3.2 Energy Factor) |
| Cooking | Electric Induction - All ENERGY STAR Appliances |
| Envelope | Walls: Insulated Concrete Forms R-21 Exterior Walls (front and rear): additional 4inches of Polyiso, total for the wall R-46 Windows: Shuco triple pane, Tilt and Turn R9 Roof: R-59 |

The lessons learned on the R-951 project are that there are substantial savings that can be realized from not installing gas lines, boiler flues and related piping that can assist in offsetting the costs associated with the advanced envelope construction needed to meet Passive House standards. ${ }^{25}$ On their next project, Architect Paul Castrucci said he would simplify wall construction to use less types of wall insulation (instead of using both spray foam and mineral wool in one wall, for example) and utilize more liquid-applied air-sealing to pass the tests for air leakage in between units by a higher margin. ${ }^{25}$

## All-Electric Product Guides <br> Technology Background

This section covers everything one finds in a residence: space heating; domestic hot water; stoves; laundry drying; electric fireplaces; electric cars; electric car chargers; electric landscaping; and electric saunas, pools and hot tubs. Pricing and technical details are provided in the tables below images of leading brands. Be aware that new models come out frequently and old models are retired, and prices will vary from our findings - our apologies should the information be out of date.

A key technology in building electrification is the vapor compression cycle in an air conditioner, which can be reversed to also perform heating. This technology goes by many names, depending on the application: "refrigerators," "air conditioners," "heat pumps," "condensers," and "reverse chillers," to name a few. The history of refrigeration dates back to the 1550s, when saltpeter baths were first used to chill wine. Ice manufacturing was a booming business by the late 1700s, and the first true "refrigerator" using a vapor compression cycle was built to chill beer at the nation's largest brewery, S. Liebmann's


Figure 17: Air source heat pumps collect more energy from the air than they use to gather it. (Image by Redwood Energy) Sons Brewery in Brooklyn, New York in 1870. Willis Carrier is credited with inventing the air conditioner in 1902 also in Brooklyn, NY, and by the 1920s residential refrigerators were common nation-wide. Products that could both heat and cool a home came on the market in the 1950s, now called "heat pumps."

Heat pumps can draw their energy from three main sources - the air, the ground and water - and this heat is then used to heat the air or water. The most


Figure 18: Air Source Heat Pumps can operate down to -31 ${ }^{\circ}$ F. ${ }^{26}$ common and flexible heat pumps are "air source," like that in your refrigerator or your air conditioner. Ground source heat pumps require drilling equipment but operate well in the winter. Water source are even less common, requiring a pond or similar source of water, unless it uses wastewater from a building. Sometimes, "Air to water heat pump" refers to a twostage process, where a central air source heat pump collects heat or dissipates heat to heat or chill water, and then that water circulates through the building to radiators or hydronic floors, instead of being blown via heated air.

Heat pumps can move heat from one substance to another so well because of the compression and expansion of fluids called refrigerants. There are many types of refrigerants, but the most common for heating and cooling are the Hydrofluorocarbons r410 and r134a which are newer versions of refrigerants like R22 but do not contribute to ozone depletion. However, the industry has been moving toward "natural" refrigerants like CO2 (R744), Ammonia (R717) and Propane (R290) that do not deplete the ozone and contribute many orders of magnitude less to global warming.

Cold Climate Heat Pumps can now collect heat from outside air down to Arctic temperatures ( $\left.-20^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right)^{27}$, where early models were limited to warmer climates. With the use of inverters, heat pumps can now accelerate their compressor pump so they can operate in below freezing temperatures. In addition to inverter technology, cold climate heat pumps have a heating element to defrost the outside unit to keep ice from forming on it.

## Domestic Hot Water

The following section provides electric alternatives to gas water heaters for single family applications. The most common options are individual tank water heaters and on demand water heaters. Heat pump water heaters deliver hot water at high efficiencies and typically come with electric resistance back up for peak loads.

## Large Central Heat Pump Water Heaters

Apartment buildings, hotels and large commercial facilities usually heat water in a central plant and plumb it throughout the building. These systems can range from 10 tons to 260 tons ( 1 ton $=12,000 \mathrm{Btv} / \mathrm{hr}$ ) and like any central system they require careful design of the pumps, heat exchangers and storage tanks to optimize energy use and heat pump operation. The range of

> On the cost of large central heat pumps: "It is very difficult to get contractors to provide pricing for subsets of work within a larger scope, below is some of the best data we have to date- $\$ 1,359 / \mathrm{Apt}$, an incremental cost of $\$ 600 /$ apartment more than using a gas boiler, but the estimate does not include the savings from eliminating gas service, which can be $\$ 600$ - $\$ 1000 /$ apartment." Shawn Oram, Ecotope operating temperatures is important each product has a different maximum output temperature, between $120^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and $180^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$, and a minimum operating temperature between $5^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and $45^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ before it switches off the heat pump and uses resistance to heat the water. Resistance heating, which is $100 \%$ efficient verses the heat pump which is $200-400 \%$ efficient should be minimized to get the maximum efficiency of heat pump water heaters. To achieve large temperature lifts (like $0^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ to $185^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ ) multiple products can be used in series; for example the Colmac CxV's (low temp air source heat pump) in multi-pass to heat a glycol loop for the CxW (water source heat pump), a suggestion from Brian Culler of Colmac. With a three-phase power connection, the Transom Hatch ${ }^{28}$ can deliver water temperatures as high as $180^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$, through either placing multiple units in series (as many as 12) to create up to 24 stages, or through controlling flow within the unit or in the hydronic system design. Getting heat pumps to output $180^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ degree water allows them to be a direct replacement for gas boilers in high temperature applications like hospitals, high rise apartments, universities, and more.

Large Central Heat Pump Water Heaters (240V-480V)

|  | IceAir <br> CCHPD325, <br> CCHPD650 | Arctic <br> O60A | Nordic <br> ATW Series | Transom <br> Hatch <br> HAP(064-240)W- <br> $(1,2)$ | Colmac |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CxV |  |  |  |  |


| Ref. Type | R410a | R410a | R410a |  | R134a |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Heat Pump <br> Ambient <br> Temp. Range <br> (F) | $\mathbf{- 1 3}$ | $\mathbf{- 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{- 7 - 1 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{- 2 5 - 9 5}$ | $\mathbf{- 4 - 1 2 0}$ |
| Power (W) | $35,000-71,000$ | 5500 | $1,190-2,500$ | $9,900-40,000$ | $4,900-6,300$ |
| Amps (A) | $65-131$ | 27.3 | $15-30$ | Max 67.8-238 | 36.8 |
| Heating Cap. <br> (Btu/hr) | $290,000-$ <br> 566,000 | 68,000 | $22,700-59,100$ | $64,000-524,000$ | $31,200-77,900$ |
| Cooling Cap. <br> (Btu/hr) | 324,000 to <br> 641,000 | 52,000 | 17,400 | - | $17,300-60,700$ |
| Heating <br> (COP) | 2.4 | 3.6 | $1.38-4.94$ | $1.75-3.57$ | $1.8-3.7$ |
| Cooling <br> (COP) | 4.4 | 2.50 | $1.57-5.84$ | - | $1.0-2.9$ |

## Best Practices for Heat Pumps Central Domestic Hot Water Systems

Using heat pumps to provide space cooling dates to the 1920s, for space heating to the 1940s, but using compressors to heat domestic hot water for cafeterias, apartment complexes, dairies ${ }^{29}$ and other large uses dates only to the 1970s and has advanced further in Asia where efficiency is more valued. Consequently, there is less familiarity among North American designers of both the products and practice of designing commercial hot water systems using heat pumps. Below is helpful guidance from the engineers at Ecotope of Seattle, the most experienced designers ( 25 systems so far) of central domestic hot water heat pumps in North America.

1. Heat pumps are not boilers. Do not oversize the central heat pump for faster recovery, which leads to both higher construction costs and equipment failure. Instead use a series of dispatchable 5-15-ton heat pumps, rather than one larger (e.g., 60 ton) heat pump and favor hot water storage over hot water production.
2. When designing hot water systems, split the pipe recirculation heat loss load from the use load. Temperature improvement of recirculating water is ideal for "multi-pass" heat pumps that handle $110^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ incoming water (e.g., Aermec, Daiken) and perform $10^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ temperature bump-ups, while meeting peak loads is best done with a "single pass" heat pump (e.g. Sanden, Colmac) that uses cold incoming water, not recirc water, to efficiently lift temperatures from $50^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ to $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.
3. Install "heat traps" on both hot and cold-water sides of storage tanks to prevent migration and mixing.
4. Reduce pipe surface area to greatest extent possible. Insulate remaining pipes with 1 "-4" of foam, depending on space availability. Insulate tanks to at least R-19, same as an outside wall, due to the even more extreme heat loss than found in a wall.
5. Design diagnostics into crucial points in the heat plant and distribution system-electrical gauges to measure power quality, temperature gauges to monitor heat gain and loss, and control valves on the discharge side of pumps to measure pump flow
6. Provide redundancy in heat pumps and choose electric resistance storage tanks for a durable, dependable design for the eventuality that system components need improvement.
7. Consider adding drain line heat recovery to save energy while improving the hot water delivery capacity. This is a simple heat exchanger to transfer heat from the drain line to the incoming cold-water input to the water heater.


Figure 19: Ecotope Case Study "RCC" system for 194-unit Multifamily building, using best practices in central heat pumps for domestic hot water, from ACEEE presentation by Shawn Oram. ${ }^{30}$

## Individual Tank Heat Pump Water Heaters

Typical electric water heaters that use electric resistance are not shown due to their minimal efficiency. The products shown collect $2.4-3.8$ units of heat for every one unit of electricity powering the air source heat pump and provide 30-80 gallons of water storage. Some have a 4,000 BTU compressor integrated on top of the tank, others use a 12,000-36,000 BTU separate compressor outside that produces more BTUs at a higher efficiency. These models can be used as either serving one dwelling unit or can be combined in a distributed central plant to feed multiple units. Installing these units indoors especially in basements can provide dehumidification as well as avoid low ambient temperatures. Another way to think of it is they provide free hot water and dehumidification for half the year by offsetting a small amount of cooling load. New systems using $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ as a refrigerant (R744) can handle brutal winter climates.


Figure 20: Jane Fisher decided to install an energy saving heat pump water heater at her investment property in Melbourne. ${ }^{31}$

Heat Pump Water Heaters (240V)

| Manufacturer and Product Image | Eco2 Systems | Steilbel Eltron Accelera $\square$ | Rheem Prestige Hybrid | AO Smith Voltex Hybrid | Bradford White AeroTherm |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | Large Volume Cold Climate CO2 Refrigerant | Hybrid: Heat Pump and Resistance | Hybrid: Heat Pump and Resistance | Hybrid: Heat Pump and Resistance | Hybrid: Heat Pump and Resistance |
| Gallons | 43, 83 | 58, 80 | 50, 65, 80 | 50, 66, 80 | 50, 80 |
| Voltage (V) | 208/230 | 220/240 | 208/240 | 208/240 | 208/240 |
| Dimension (in) | $\begin{gathered} 27.5 \mathrm{H} \times 35 \mathrm{~W} \times \\ 11 \mathrm{D} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $60 \mathrm{H} \times 27$ Diam. | $74 \mathrm{H} \times 24 \mathrm{Diam}$. | $69 \mathrm{H} \times 27$ Diam. | $71 \mathrm{H} \times 25$ Diam. |
| Ref. Type | R744 (CO2) | R134a | R134a | R134a | R134a |
| Heat Pump Ambient Temp. Range (F) | $\begin{gathered} -30-110 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | 42-108 / 6-42* | 37-145* | 45-109* | 35-120* |
| Power (W) | 3,120 | 650-1500 |  | 4,500 | 550-4,500 |
| Max Amps (A) | 13 | 15 | 15-30 | 30 | 30 |
| Heating (Btu/hr) | 15,400 | 5,800 | 4,200 | - | - |
| Heating (COP) | 5.0 | - | - | - | - |
| Energy Factor | 3.09-3.84 | 3.05-3.39 | $3.55-3.70$ | 3.06-3.61 | 2.40-3.39 |
| Price (\$) | \$ 3,400 | \$ 2,300-2,600 | \$ 1,200-1,400-1,700 | $\begin{gathered} \$ 1,400-1,500- \\ 1,900 \end{gathered}$ | \$ 1,400-1,600 |

* No outdoor temperature limit with electric resistance back up.


## Retrofit Ready Heat Pump Water Heaters (120V)

There has been a market demand for heat pump water heaters that are "retrofit ready" meaning, they can plug into a 120 V typical electrical socket, to rapidly electrify water heating. Both Rheem and GE have announced they will be releasing retrofit ready heat pump water heaters to the U.S. soon.

|  | GE GeoSpring | Rheem Prestige Hybrid |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Description | Heat Pump Only | Heat Pump Only |
| Gallons | 40,50 | 40 |
| Voltage (V) | More Specifications <br> Coming Soon | More Specifications Coming Soon |
| Notes |  |  |

## Product Highlight - Eco2 Heat Pump Water Heater

The Eco2 uses $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ as a refrigerant (which does not contribute to global warming, like other typically used refrigerants) and allows the heat pump to have no "hard stop" of operation even at very low outdoor air temperatures. ${ }^{32}$ At low outdoor air ( $-15^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ ) and low inlet water temperatures (Figure below) it can make hot water up to $145^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$, and it is still more efficient than the top-of-theline natural gas hot water heater (COP of 1.9 vs . COP of 0.95). At warm outdoor air temperatures (above $70^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ ) the
"As temperatures drop to $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and below "there is no hard stop on the unit operation" of the Eco2 heat pump water heater.

- John Miles, Co-Owner of
 Eco2 Systems COP, or effeciency of the Eco2 heat pump water heater, increases to above a 5.0 COP , where a comparable natural gas water heater is still at a 0.95 COP .


Figure 21: The Eco2 heat pump water heater compressor working outside in $5^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\left(-15^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ weather. ${ }^{33}$


Figure 22: Eco2 heat pump water heater heating capacity, COP and inlet water temperatures at various ambient air temperatures. ${ }^{34}$

## On-Demand Water Heaters (120V and 240V)

Electric resistance water heaters are best used where hot water is needed in small amounts or when a project requires strict voltage limitations. Tankless water heaters can be used in a bathroom, or a 120sf tiny house that has no room for a 50-gallon tank or that is not sharing water system with other tiny homes. Electric resistance uses $2-4$ times more energy than a heat pump but can be the right size for the right demand and they are helpful when there is no 220 V electricity available. The 2 to 7 gallon tanks on the market use 120V, while anything larger uses 240 V for more heating capability.

Small Demand and Low Power Applications (120V)

|  | Stiebel Eltron | Bosch Tronic | Stiebel Eltron |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SHC Series | 3000 Series | Mini-E Series |  |
| Manufacturer and | Sis |  |  |
| Product Image | - |  |  |


| Description | Mini tank, Point of use | Mini tank, Point of use | Tankless, Point of use |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gallons | $6,4,2.7$ | $7,4,2.7$ | $0.21(\mathrm{gpm})$ |
| Voltage (V) | $110 / 120$ | 120 | $120 / 110$ |
| Dimension (in) | $20 \mathrm{H} \times 15 \mathrm{~W} \times 15 \mathrm{D}$ | $17 \mathrm{H} \times 17 \mathrm{~W} \times 14 \mathrm{D}$ | $6 \mathrm{H} \times 7 \mathrm{~W} \times 3 \mathrm{D}$ |
| Power (W) | 1,300 | 1,440 | 1,800 |
| Max Amps (A) | 11.3 | 12 | 15 |
| Heating (COP) | 0.98 | 0.98 | 0.98 |
| Price (\$) | $\$ 230$ | $\$ 210$ | $\$ 160$ |

## Hybrid Heat Pump and Electric Resistance OnDemand Water Heaters

One specialty product is a hybrid heat pump and electric resistance back up water heater by Nulite. This product is meant to replace ondemand gas water heater systems and are more efficient a typical electric resistance and gas on-demand water heaters. Created in China, they are now available in the United States.

|  | Nulite <br> NERS-FR1.5F | Nulite <br> NE-BZ2/W200 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Manufacturer and Product |  |  |
| Image |  |  |,

## Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

The following section gives an overview of heating and cooling electric systems that are used in single-
family and multifamily buildings. The sample of heat pumps shown are in three major categories - air source, geothermal, and hydronic. They range in size from $9,000 \mathrm{BTU} / \mathrm{hr}$ to $600,000 \mathrm{BTU} / \mathrm{hr}$ and include central heat pumps, mini-split heat pumps, packaged terminal heat pump, vertical terminal heat pumps, "all-in-one" HRV heat pumps, geothermal heat pumps, and hydronic heat pumps.
Air Source Heat Pumps (Air-to-Air)
Using a reversible air conditioner - a "heat pump" - to heat people's homes began in the 1930s, grew in popularity in the 1950s when they became smaller and more affordable, and has grown
exponentially world-wide. Air source heat pumps that heat air do so with fan coils that may be mounted on the wall or ceiling or hidden in the ceiling or a closet and connected to ducts. Starting in 2001, computers began to be added to heat pumps - these small computers calculate in real-time the heat available outdoors vs. the heat requested indoors and speed up the internal parts to collect more heat as the outdoor temperature drops, even down to $-31^{\circ} \mathrm{F} /-35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. They have the side benefit of being much quieter than single-speed heat pumps. Heat pumps with these computerized controls are often advertised as having "inverter drives," "variable speed" or "variable refrigerant flow," phrases which all have the same meaning.

## Variable Refrigerant Flow Heat Pumps (240V)

VRF systems are split heat pumps that transport heat through a building with refrigerant lines, the larger version of ductless mini-split systems. As such, they are typically used in commercial buildings or for community spaces in multifamily developments and can be useful in retrofits of mid-sized buildings when space for ducting is limited.

|  | Mitsubishi <br> City Multi Y-Series | York <br> Gen II Heat Recovery | Carrier <br> VRF 38VMH | Daikin <br> VRV IV Heat Pump |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| and Product <br> Image |  |  |  |  |

## Central Ducted Heat Pumps (240V)

Ducted heat pump and air conditioning systems are usually driven by a central compressor that pumps air through ducts to vents in different areas throughout the building. These systems pair an outdoor air to air heat pump unit with an indoor evaporator coil and air handler unit.

| Manufacturer and Product Image | York YZHO2412C | Goodman GSZC180481C | Daikin DZ14SA0483 | Carrier Infinity 25VNA036A003 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dimension (in) (WxDxH) | $42 \times 23 \times 34$ | $35 \times 35 \times 38$ | $29 \times 29 \times 34$ | $35 \times 28 \times 44$ |
| Crankcase Heater | No | Yes, with switch | Factory-installed | Internal, Factory Installed |
| Ref. Type | R410a | R410a | R410a | R410a |
| Ambient Temp. Range (H/C) (F) | $\begin{gathered} -10-115 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -5-115 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -10-65 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -4-68 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ |
| Power (W) | 2,500-3,412 | 4,830-4,840 | 3300 | 1,050-1,240 |
| Heating Capacity (Btu/hr) | 18,000-59,000 | 22,000-59,500 | 44,500 | 25,000 |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) | 19,000-58,000 | 23,000-56,500 | 45,000 | 36,000 |
| Heating (COP) | 2-4 | 1.47-6.77 | 3.95 | 2.3-4 |
| Cooling (COP) | 4-4.4 | 3.66-4.10 | 4.1 | 4-4.4 |
| Price (\$) | \$ 2,000 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 3,200 |

## Energy Consequences of Uncontrolled Crank Case Heaters

Traditional ducted Heat Pump and Air Conditioner Compressors are often heated with a crank case heater (or sump heater), which keeps the lubricant warm enough to not mix with refrigerant - preventing it from becoming "milky" and resulting in a noisy, inefficient heat pump. These can use a significant amount of electricity if uncontrolled (e.g. 100W on 24/7/365 becomes 876 kWh/year which can double the energy use of a smaller home), but can be designed to use very little energy, and only when needed. Some HVAC heat pumps do not use them at all due to different lubricants or modified design. One should consider this non-rated, but real,


Figure 23: "Belly Band" crankcase heater (heating wire wrapped around compressor).


Figure 24: Insertion crankcase heater (heating element inside compressor). energy use when choosing a heat pump.

Many manufacturers have devised strategies to avoid or reduce the use of a crank case heater:

- Using lubricant that does not mix with refrigerant
- A recycling pump that stores refrigerant away from the compressor lubricant during shut down
- Temperature sensors that only turn on the crank case heater when the refrigerant gases are approaching liquid state and could mix with lubricant

While crank case heaters are not (yet) clearly identified in product specification sheets, asking for information from the Contractor or their Distributor will clarify whether you may have a heat pump that performs as advertised or an unidentified, potentially large "phantom load."

## Mini-Split Heat Pumps (240V)

Mini-Split systems are comprised of a compressor outside the building and a fan inside the building. Mini split systems can also have many fans inside the building, commonly referred to as multi split systems, where one outside unit serves multiple fans or zones inside the building. Having multiple zones in the building allows for a more controlled, versatile arrangement of installations and temperature settings compared to a typical split HVAC system. Zones can be at different temperature settings while still being


Figure 23: An example of a ductless mini-split heat pump outdoor compressor mounted to stay above the snow and a wall-mounted indoor fan coil. ${ }^{35}$ served by one outside unit. Multi/mini-split systems can be ductless (where refrigerant lines move heat around the building) or they can have mini ducts where air is moved around the building. Having no ducts prevents duct leakage energy losses but having many refrigerant lines running through the building can cause problems if they leak. In general, mini/multi split systems are more efficient than typical HVAC systems. No ducting also has an advantage because of reduced fan loads.

Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps (120V)

| Interior WallMounted Fan Coil | Carrier 38MAR | GE <br> Caliber Series AS 12CRA <br> (88) | Mitsubishi MZ-JP12WA | Haier |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | 1 Indoor Fan Coil | 1 Indoor Fan Coil | 1 Indoor Fan Coil | 1 Indoor Fan Coil |
| Dimension (in) $(H x W x D)$ | $32 \times 21 \times 13$ | $21 \times 31 \times 10$ | $22 \times 32 \times 11$ | $28 \times 35 \times 14$ |
| Ref. Type | R410a | R410a | R410a | R410a |
| Ambient Temp. Range (H/C) (F) | -13-122 | -4-115 | -4-115 | -4-115 |
| Power (W) | 1,725 | - | 800-1,300 | 2,100 |
| Max Amps (A) | 15 | - | 11.8 | 18 |
| Heating Cap. (Btu/hr) | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,200 | 16,000 |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Heating (COP) | 2.03-3.80 | 2.92 | 2.9 | 3.2 |
| Cooling (COP) | - | 2.92 | 2.9 | 3.75 |
| Price (\$) | \$2400 | \$860 | \$1200 | - |

Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps (240V)

| Interior Wall- <br> Mounted Fan <br> Coil | HAIER <br> Arctic Next Gen | Fujitsu <br> Halcyon Series | Mitsubishi <br> HyperCore FH50 | MrCool <br> MDUO180(24- <br> $60)$ | LG36 <br> Multi F MAX <br> LGRED |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Ducted Mini-Split Heat Pumps (240V)

| Attic Fan Coil and <br> Ductwork | Senville <br> SENA/18HF/ID | Mitsubishi <br> Arctic Multi Series <br> 4U36EH2VHA | Gree <br> MXZ3C24NAHZ2 | MULTI18HP230V1BO |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


| Price for Outdoor Unit <br> $(\$)$ | $\$ 1,400$ (includes 50 <br> ft refrigerant line) | $\$ 3,400$ (outdoor <br> unit only) | $\$ 3,110$ (no <br> ducting or <br> refrigerant lines) | $\$ 1,930$ (no indoor <br> units or refrigerant <br> lines) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


| Attic Fan Coil and <br> Ductwork | Pioneer <br> YNO12GMFI2RPD | Mitsubishi <br> MXZ2C20NAHZ2 | LG <br> LDI27HV4 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## The Complete Cost of Mini-Split Systems

The following section gives an overview of the costs associated with hiring a contractor to install ductless heat pumps. The first table show the pricing for leading manufacturers for single-head and multi-head systems. Below is a 2019 interview with Jonathan Moscatello of the Heat Pump Store in Portland, Oregon, a description of the mark up on heat pump prices, and a description of costs for short ducted or mini-duct systems.


- Multifamily installations, where the labor is onsite all day and able to accomplish 4-6 installations, cost $\sim 30 \%$ less
- Indoor units involving simple installation method, the outdoor and indoor unit sharing an exterior wall with 15' of interconnecting line sets and electrical
- Indoor unit is of the high-wall mounted type
- $\$ 500$ increase per indoor unit is typical when the refrigerant line set length increases to $25^{\prime}$ or longer to cover the additional labor and materials to add refrigerant to the system
- Up to $\$ 1,000$ increase per indoor unit when the indoor unit is located on an interior wall, necessitating that the refrigerant line set be installed through an attic or crawlspace
- a Indicates "cold climate" model

Interview on Heat Pump Pricing with Jonathan Moscatello of the Heat Pump Store in Portland, Oregon The following section summarizes the correspondence between Sean Armstrong of Redwood Energy and Jonathan Moscatello of the Heat Pump Store in Portland, Oregon. Jonathan had just returned from China, where he has direct import relationships for ductless mini-split heat pumps, with decades in the business.

A lot of people are not clear about how heat pumps are sold in the market. Could you explain to us? Sure, it's not that complicated, but it's true that most people aren't exactly sure how it works. The process starts with the Manufacturer - they sell to Distributors. I don't know what the Manufacturer pricing is, and generally it's not possible to buy directly from the Manufacturer. When you are a Contractor who wants to install a heat pump, you buy from the Distributor. Then you sell it to the Client, and at each step there is a markup of 25 to $50 \%$.

If the contractor is fair and the labor is well-trained and fairly paid, what is the total cost of installing a ductless mini split with one fan coil?
The lowest cost for a one ton, with one fan coil, that you'll see where someone can stay in business is $\$ 4,200$ to do an individual house. For a 2 -ton, $\$ 5,500$ is the lowest price you would see. In multifamily, where a contractor could have a property owner or a general paying for electrical AND where the installers could be onsite for a week (operating in a highly productive installation, 4 to 6 systems per day) - we regularly see $\$ 3,000$ per system installation - about $30 \%$ less than an individual home. I did this business for several years, and contractors take a lot of risks and work hard in difficult work environments.

## How much does it cost to buy just the materials for a 1 -ton mini split heat pump?

What the Contractor pays from the Distributor is $\$ 800$ to $\$ 1,400$ a ton, with the average around $\$ 1,200$. Mitsubishi is an example of a $\$ 1,400$ per ton product, while $\$ 1,200$ a ton is found in products from Daikin, Panasonic, LG, and Aurora. What the contractor charges a client is $40 \%$ to $50 \%$ more than their price. So, $\$ 800-\$ 1400$ to the Contractor is $\$ 1100-\$ 2100$ to the Client, plus labor and additional materials.

Can you tell us about the cost for buying and installing a heat pump with multi-zone system, where
there are 2-5 fan coils scattered in different rooms?
Well, if a 1 -ton mini-split cost about $\$ 1,200$, a 1.5 ton with two fan coils cost $\$ 1,600$ to $\$ 1,800$, and a 2ton compressor with three fan coils cost about $\$ 3,200$. Of course, this is marked up $40 \%-50 \%$ when sold to a client. The inside fan coils each cost about \$450, while the compressor goes up in cost at about \$800/ton.

## What about the Labor costs for installing a ductless mini split?

Labor is a constrained resource. For a full-time job, labor is paid $\$ 25$ to $\$ 35$ an hour, and sold to the client at $\$ 42$ to $\$ 60$ an hour. To install a 1-ton heat pump by market leading contractors takes 2 to 4 hours, and for contractors who do not typically install ductless systems - that same work takes 4 to 8 hours because of contractor inefficiency, likely due to their relative inexperience.

## Cost Breakdown of Overhead Minisplit Heat Pumps

Pricing of ductless heat pump installations varies widely due in large part to the margin goals of the installation company involved. Typically, installation companies fall into three margin categories based on attributes relating to their overhead and size. Below is an example of marked up costs and the breakdown of overhead pricing.

Table 12: Example of "Marked Up Costs" Pricing Model of Simple Installation of a Single Zone System.

| Labor | $\$ 300$ (5 hours $\times \$ 60$ per hour) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Equipment | $40 \%$ of sale price or $\$ 1,200$ (and up to $\$ 2,400$ depending on <br> equipment) |
| Materials | Approximately $5 \%$ of sale, roughly $\$ 300$ |
| Subcontractor (electrical) | $\$ 600-1000$ |
| Permits | $\$ 100-150$ |
| Subtotal | $\$ 2,500 / .6$ (40\% Margin) |
| Total | $\$ 4,166$ |

Table 13: Cost breakdown of how overhead costs for mini split heat pumps.

| Margin Categories | Atrributes related to Overhead and Size | Gross Profit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Low | Staff size: less than 5 <br> Business location: Work out of home <br> Years in business: "New Entrants", less than 5. <br> Type of work: Almost all installation sales. <br> Annual revenue: under $\$ 1.5$ million. | 25-35\% |
| Medium | Staff size: 5 to 15 <br> Business location: Small shop with limited office space. <br> Years in business: 5 to 15 . <br> Type of work: installation, with limited service and improvement sales. <br> Annual revenues: $\$ 1.5$ to $\$ 3.5$ million. | 35-45\% |
| High | Staff size: 15 to 50+ <br> Business location: Professional office space, warehouse, loading dock. <br> Years in business: over 15 years, often multi-generational. <br> Type of work: Commercial and residential, installation, sales and service. <br> Annual revenue: over $\$ 3.5$ million | >45\% |

## What can you tell us about the installation costs of Short Ducted Heat Pumps?

The pricing of so-called short run ducted mini-split systems varies widely, due in large part to the unique requirements of each installation. In general, the cost of equipment (only) used in short-run ducted split systems is comparable in cost to ductless split systems (when the comparing the cost of equipment per unit of BTU of output). The variability in installed cost comes from the labor and materials needed to install a ductwork system. In most installations, the ductwork system is newly installed instead of being reused from an older installation. In this way, the new ductwork system will satisfy the engineering requirements of the equipment and the space being conditioned.

The labor and materials involved in ductwork, insulation, air sealing and grills/registers should not be discounted. When ductwork is installed in attics and crawlspaces, the labor costs can increase when conditions make these spaces difficult to work in. When ductwork is installed within the conditioned space by attaching to the existing ceiling, there will be additional costs to install a "drop ceiling" to hide the ductwork. Many installers have found that when pricing short-run ducted systems, the ductwork materials can cost much more than the wholesale cost of the equipment.

Given all the variability in labor and materials required to install a short-run ducted split system, most contractors price each installation as the opportunity arises. They do this by estimating the labor hours required in the prospective job, ask their distribution partner to provide a quote for all the materials and equipment needed, ask subcontractors for a quote, and finally enter all these costs into a spreadsheet whereby they apply a mark-up to satisfy their company's margin goals.

This method of marking up all the unique costs has many benefits to the installation company; it provides the installers with a materials and equipment list, and the company with a proforma model that they can manage by within should the company win the job. However, this pricing system doesn't provide government and trusted energy provider programs with any simple pricing model to use.

## Packaged Terminal Heat Pumps (240V and 120V)

PTACs and PTHPs are all-in-one HVAC units that are used to heat and cool 1 to 3 rooms. These types of units are ductless and can be hung from a wall and ducted through (e.g. Innova, Sakura), mounted in a window or placed into a cutout in the wall. Packaged units deliver heating or cooling directly to the space, avoiding energy losses from ductwork but introducing potential leaks around the product if it is not sealed.

Packaged Terminal Heat Pumps (120V)

|  | Innova HPAC 2.0 | Olimpia <br> Maestro | Frigidaire FFRH0822Q1 $\square$ | Gree 26TTW09HP115V1A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | Twin ducts through the wall, 8-inch air outlets, resistance back up | Twin ducts through the wall, dehumidification | Heat pump with Resistance | Heat pump with Resistance |
| Dimension (in) | $1.8 \mathrm{H} \times 3.3 \mathrm{~W} \times 0.5 \mathrm{D}$ | - | $15 \mathrm{H} \times 22 \mathrm{~W} \times 23 \mathrm{D}$ | $15 \mathrm{H} \times 26 \mathrm{~W} \times 16 \mathrm{D}$ |
| Ref. Type | R410a | R410a | R410a | R410a |
| Min. Heat Pump Operating Temp (F) | $\begin{gathered} -14 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | 40* | 29* |
| Power (W) | 545-730 | 830-850 | 780-1,290 | 830-1,150 |
| Heating Capacity (Btu/hr) | 3,100-10,000 | 10,600 (Heat Pump only) | $\begin{aligned} & 7,000(\mathrm{HP}) \\ & 3,500(\mathrm{ER}) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6,600(\mathrm{HP}) \\ & 3,900 \text { (ER) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) | 2,600-10,000 | 11,600 | 8,000 | 9,000 |
| Heating (COP) | 2.84-3.22 | 3.8 | 2.63 | 3 |
| Cooling (COP) | 3.12-3.28 | 3.8 | 2.87 | 2.87 |
| Price (\$) | \$1950 | \$1700-\$2300 | \$ 770 | \$ 840 |

[^2]Packaged Terminal Heat Pumps (240V)

|  |  |  | Innova SK92 | Gree $\text { W }(07,09,12)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | Theoretical lower limit of -25 F , customizable shell | Heat Pump with electric resistance | Twin ducts through the wall, 8-inch air outlets, resistance back up | Heat pump with electric resistance, dehumidification |
| Dimension (in) | $16 \mathrm{H} \times 42 \mathrm{~W}$ | $16 \mathrm{H} \times 42 \mathrm{~W} \times 21 \mathrm{D}$ in | $16 \mathrm{H} \times 26 \mathrm{~W} \times 27 \mathrm{D}$ | $15 \mathrm{H} \times 26 \mathrm{~W} \times 16 \mathrm{D}$ |
| Ref. Type | - | R410a | R410a | R410a |
| Heat Pump Operating Temp (F) | $\begin{gathered} -25,-5-95 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -4-75 / 54-115 \\ & \text { (cold climate) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | 29* |
| Power (W) | 1,200; 1,750; 2,150 | 2,300-4,700 | 3,060 | 680-3,500 |
| Amps (A) | $5.9,8.5,10.4$ | 15,20,30-amp cord | 15.7 | 3.0-15.2 |
| Heating Capacity (Bto/hr) | 10,200-17,300 | 6200-13,400 | $\begin{gathered} \text { 2,600-13,900 } \\ 17,300 \text { (with ER) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3,900-11,000 \text { (ER) } \\ 6,600-11,400 \\ (\mathrm{HP}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Cooling Cap. (Błu/hr) | 9,200-18,000 | 7,100-14,900 | 3,100-10,500 | 7,200-11,700 |
| Heating (COP) | 3.0-3.6 | 3.1-3.5 | 2.6-2.9 | 2.9-3.1 |
| Cooling (COP) | 2.9-3.5 | 3.28-3.90 | 2.63-2.93 | 2.81-3.11 |
| Price (\$) | \$1,200 | \$840 | \$ 1,250 | \$ 930 |

## Vertical Terminal Air Conditioner and Heat Pumps (VTAC/VTHP)

VTAC's sit vertically and provide heating and cooling through ducting without having visible units hanging on the wall. They are packaged units like PTHP's, but larger, and are typically used in hotels in a closet-sized space.

|  | Ice-Air $\operatorname{SPXC}(12,18,24)$ | Friedrich VRP | GE AZ75H (09, 12, 18)EAC |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Description | Air to Air | Air to Air | Air to Air |
| Voltage (V) | 208 | 230/208-265 | 208 / 230 or 265 |
| Dimension (in) (HxWxD) | $24 \times 33 \times 23$ | 31 3/4" $\times 297 / 8^{\prime \prime} \times 77$ 1/4" | $32 \times 23 \times 23$ |
| Ref. Type | R410a | R410a | R410a |
| Ambient Temp. Range $(\mathrm{H} / \mathrm{C})(\mathrm{F})$ | $\begin{gathered} -5-95 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0-70 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | 25 Degrees switches to electric resistance heat |
| Power (W) | 884-2200 | 991-2570 | - |
| Max Amps (A) | 18.8 | 4.3-14.2 | - |
| Heating Cap. (Btu/hr) | 7,600-25,900 | 11,400-28,500 | 8,400-15,700 |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) | 9,700-25,600 | 12,00-33,400 | 9,500-17,500 |
| Heating (COP) | 3.5 | 2.2-2.4 | $2.5-3.6$ |
| Cooling (COP) | 3.8 | - | 2.9-3.1 |

## Heat and Energy Recovery Ventilation (HRV and ERVs)

Heat Recovery Ventilators (HRV) and Energy Recovery Ventilators (ERV) are the same systems but with a different heat exchanger core. The ERV's heat exchanger allows water droplets to be transferred with the heat. The key difference is that an ERV will make your home more humid in winter, and less humid in summer, compared with an HRV. ${ }^{37}$ The goal with an HRV is to rid the house of its stale, moist air while transferring the maximum amount of heat into the clean incoming air. This keeps your heat and money inside while filtering contaminated air out. The location of the project will generally determine the need for an HRV or ERV.

The unit operates continuously, sucking air through ducts that are positioned in prime generation locations of moisture and odor, for example, bathrooms and kitchens. As the air flows out to an exterior vent, it passes through a metal box containing a matrix of crimped aluminum plates, full of air channels. At the same time, fresh sucked into the

Figure 24: Choosing an HRV or ERV system based on location map. ${ }^{38}$ outdoor air is being buckeding, passing through the same box on its way to outlets located in two central locations. The two airstreams never mix, but as they pass each other, heat migrates from the warm outbound stream to the cool inbound, preheating it and reducing load on the heating plant. There is no running cost to this process as all of its operations are done by the laws of physics. In the summer, the system works in reverse, using the house's cooler conditioned air to strip off some of the incoming fresh air's heat, precooling it and reducing load on the air-conditioning system.

$\left.\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}\hline & \begin{array}{c}\text { Fantech } \\ \text { VHR70 Fresh } \\ \text { Air } \\ \text { Appliance } \\ \text { FLEX 100H } \\ \text { ES Fr. Air } \\ \text { Appliance }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { BLAUGER } \\ \text { ERV EC D(R) } \\ 150\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Zehnder } \\ \text { ComfoAir } \\ \text { Q350 }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { BLAUGEG } \\ \text { KOMFORT EC } \\ \text { D5B180(-E) }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { BLAUBERG } \\ \text { KOMFORT EC }\end{array} \\ \text { SB5506 }\end{array}\right]$

| Ambient / <br> Transported <br> air temp [ C ] | -13 to 32 <br> heating | -12 to 32 <br> heating | -13 to 32 <br> heating | -4 to 104 | -13 to 140 | -13 to 140 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Voltage | 120 | 120 | 120 | 240 | 120 | 120 |
| Max Amps <br> (A) | 0.4 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 1.42 | 0.71 | 2.3 |
| Sensible <br> Recovery <br> Efficiency <br> $(\%)$ | $61-72 \%$ from <br> $-13^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ to $32^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $62 \%-65 \%$ <br> from <br> $-12^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ to <br> $32^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $77 \%-82 \%$ <br> from <br> $-13^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ to $32^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $86.5 \%$ | $88-98 \%$ | $88-98 \%$ |

## ERV, HRV, and Heat Pump Combinations

The two products below provide filtered ventilation, heat recovery, and supplemental heat pump heating. The heat pump capacity is small, so these are an "all-in-one" solution for smaller single-family homes or apartments and fit into a closest sized space with slim ducting throughout the home.

|  | CERV-2 | Minotair <br> Pentacare V12 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Description | Heat Pump, Ducted Ventilation and HRV | Ducted Heat Pump, HRV, and <br> Ventilation (MERV-15) Combo with <br> 5 kW resistance heat |
| Dim. (in) (HxWxD) | $38 \times 25.5 \times 40$ | $16 \times 18 \times 40$ |

## Hydronic Heat Pumps (Air-to-Water) (240V)

The air to water (aka hydronic) heat pumps are used in radiant floor heating, domestic hot water and swimming pools and hot tubs in cold climates - note in blue the ambient temperatures in which they can operate.

|  | Spacepak <br> Split System <br> Inverter | Arctic <br> Heat Pump 020A | Nordic <br> ATW Series | Aermec <br> ANK (030,045,050) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Manufacturer and <br> Product Image |  |  |  |  |


| Description | Air to water, heating and cooling, inverter compressor | Hydronic Heating, Domestic Hot Water, Pools and hot tubs | Hydronic heating, fan coils air-conditioning | HVAC and DHW combination |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Voltage (V) | 240 | 220-240V | 208/230 | 208/230 |
| Dimension (in) (HxWxD) | $55 \mathrm{H} \times 35 \mathrm{~W} \times 15 \mathrm{D}$ | $33 \times 18.5 \times 45$ | $34 \times 34 \times 35$ | $50 \mathrm{H} \times 58 \mathrm{~W} \times 18 \mathrm{D}$ |
| Ref. Type | R410a | R410a | R410a | R134a |
| Ambient Temp. Range $(H / C)(F)$ | $\begin{gathered} -22-105 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -15 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -7-120 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} -4-107 \\ \text { (cold climate) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Power (W) | 5,200-9,500 | 2,710-3,000 | 1,190-2,500 | 2,810-4,520 |
| Max Amps (A) | 32 | 15 | 15-30 | 45 |
| Heating Cap. (Btu/hr) | 21,000-68,000 | 35,826 | 4,280-22,700 | 37,670-57,598 |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) | 20,400-51,600 | 25,600 | 17,400 | 30,120-48,240 |
| Heating (COP) | 4.23 | 3.14 | 1.38-4.94 | 3.1-4.4 |
| Cooling (COP) | 4.09 | 2.5 | 1.57-5.84 | - |
| Price | \$7500 | \$3750 | \$5000 | \$5500-\$7500 |


|  | Stiebel Eltron <br> WPL (15,20,25) (AS, ACS) | Stiebel Eltron <br> Wanufacturer and Product <br> Image |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |

## Geothermal Heat Pumps (Ground/Water-to-Air/Water) (240V)

Geothermal Heat Pumps rely on the constant temperature in the ground or a large body of water to deliver conditioned air to a home year-round; typically, their coils are buried in the ground and can have various configurations (vertical, horizontal, etc.). In the winter when the temperature above ground is lower than the temperature below the ground, the heat from the ground is transferred into the building for space heating, and vice versa in the summer for cooling. Geothermal heat pumps can provide space heating, space cooling, domestic hot water heating and/or pool heating. For domestic hot water, a desuperheater (which is a small heat exchanger) uses the heat generated form the compressor to heat water for the home. For pool heating, either the heat from the ground can be transferred directly to the pool, or the heat from the ground can be transferred to a compressor (with refrigerant lines) to then heat the water further. Each unit pictured works with ground loops, water loops or ground water loops with optional hot water.

| Manufacturer and Product Image | Nordic R Series Residential | Water Furnace <br> 7 Series-700A11 | York York Affinity YAF | Geostar Aston Series | Bosch Green Source ES Model |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Voltage (V) | 208/230 | 208/230 | 208/230 | 208-230 | 208-230 |
| Dimension (in) ( HxWxD ) | $66 \times 36 \times 44$ | $58 \times 32 \times 26$ | $25 \times 31 \times 58$ | $25 \times 31 \times 58$ | $21 \times 26 \times 54$ |
| Ref. Type | R410a | R-410a | R-410A | R_410A | R-410a |
| Ambient Temp. Range $(H / C)(F)$ | 23-110 | $\begin{gathered} \hline 45-85 / 45-100 \text { (air) } \\ 20-90 / 30-120 \\ \text { (water) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { 45-100/45-85(air) } \\ 30-120 / 20- \\ 90 \text { (water) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | (45-100) air (30-120) water | 50-100 |
| Power (W) | 1203-1,764 | - | - | - | - |
| Max - Amps (A) | 7.8 | 32-46 | - | - | - |
| Heating Cap. (Btu/hr) | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 15,200- \\ & 23,000 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 13,000-78,000 | 14,000-85,000 | 16400-19500 | 20,500-80,000 |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) | $\begin{gathered} \hline 20,100- \\ 26,800 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 11,000-60,000 | 11,000-66,000 | 21000-26000 | 18,000-72000 |
| Heating (COP) | 3.7-4.9 | 3.5-7.6 | 4.6-5.9 | 3.4-5.88 | 3.6-4.1 |
| Cooling (COP) | 5.7-9.6 | 4.7-15.6 | 3.8-5.2 | 4.8-7.032 | 41-7.6 |

## Wastewater Heat Recovery Heat Pumps (240V)

SHARC heat pumps harvest heat from human wastewater and other wastewater sources (like laundry room wastewater for one of their projects) and can provide a building with heating and cooling. Wastewater is a great heat resource throughout the year making their heat pumps perform well in the wintertime. Their products can be applied to residential buildings up to campus wide systems, and they have a range of projects in the U.S. and Canada. ${ }^{39}$

| Manufacturer and | SHARC |
| :--- | :---: |
| Product Image | Piranha T(5-15) HC |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Voltage (V) | 24R/4HA |
| Ref. Type | R513a |
| Description | Hastewater Heat Recovery |
|  | $5,750-11,500$ |
| Power (W) | $25-50$ |
| Max - Amps (A) | $60,000-180,000$ |
| Heating Cap. (Btu/hr) | 3.8 |
| Heating COP | $48,000-144,000$ |
| Cooling Cap. (Btu/hr) |  |



Figure 25: All-Electric Culinary leaders in New York City include many diners, an upscale oyster bar, induction ranges for each customer's Mongolian hot pot and fine Italian dining made with induction woks.

Commercial Electric Kitchens in Mixed Use Buildings
Urban multi-family buildings often have restaurants on the ground floor that benefit from faster, cleaner safer, more efficient all-electric equipment. 40

- Electric cooking equipment delivers heat three times as effectively than natural gas equipment - heat delivery efficiency is between 60\%-90\%, compared to natural gas equipment at 25-35\% efficient. ${ }^{41}$ In addition, ENERGY STAR commercial electric cooking equipment can reduce loads.
- Faster heat delivery is important during rush hours - at a fast-food restaurant an electric fryer produces six more baskets of fries per hour than a gas fryer, directly impacting sales, labor efficiency and profitability.
- Gas inefficiency triples kitchen air conditioning and ventilation loads, and gas combustion pollution ( $\mathrm{NO}_{2}$, Formaldehyde) makes kitchens inherently less healthy for chefs.
- Induction electric cooking offers precise temperature control, while gas burns at $3400^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and then relies upon inefficiencies in heat transfer, or liquids in the pan to cool it. Induction stoves protect chefs from high temperature burns when they bump cookware.

Commercial Electric Ranges

| Make/Model | Bertazzoni PRO304INMXE |  | Vulcan EV36S4FP1HT2 | AGA Elise AEL48IN-SS $\square$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price | \$3,000 | \$6,490 | \$8,440 | \$8,930 | \$10,100 | \$10,400 |
| Amp/Wattage | 45.5 / 12.4 | $78 / 19$ | 13kW | 50 / 14.9 | 103.8/21.6 | 33kW |
| Volts | 240 | 240 | 208 | 240 | 208-240 | 208-240 |
| Heating Type | Induction | Radiant | Radiant | Induction | Radiant | Radiant |
| Temp. Range | NA | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-550^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $200^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-500^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | NA | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-450^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-550^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ |
| Burner Diameter | 7"(2x)/ 5"/ $8^{\prime \prime}$ | $\begin{gathered} 61 /{ }^{\prime \prime \prime}(x 3) / 8 \\ 1 / 2^{\prime \prime}(x 3) \end{gathered}$ | NA | Flattop | $\begin{gathered} \hline 24 " \text { griddle/8" } \\ \text { element( } \times 4 \text { ) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | NA |

Commercial Ovens (240V)
$\left.\begin{array}{|l|c|c|c|c|}\hline \text { Make/Model } & \begin{array}{c}\text { Bakers Pride } \\ \text { BCO-E1 }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Vulcan } \\ \text { VC5ED-11D1 }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Blodgett } \\ \text { BDO-100-E }\end{array} & \\ & & & & \\ \text { SUME-100 }\end{array}\right]$

Commercial Single Burner Countertop Induction Cooktops (1800 W / 15 Amps / 120V)

| Make/Model | Update <br> International IC | Eurodib <br> C1813 | Waring <br> WIH200 | ChangBERT | Vollrath |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Price |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temp. Range | $140^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-460^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-450^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | Up to $450^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | NA | $\$ 610$ |

Electric Induction Woks (240V / 15A)

| Make/Model | Spring <br> SM-351WCR-8 | Garland <br> GI-SH | APW <br> Wyott IWK | Vollrath <br> 6958301 | GI-SH/WO/IN |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Price |  |  |  |  |  |
| kW | $\$ 1,470$ | $\$ 1,760$ |  |  |  |

Electric Fryers (240V)

| Make/Model | Dean <br> SR114E <br> Imperial Range <br> IFS-40-E | Frymaster <br> RE14C-SD | Anets <br> AEH14X | Garland <br> $36 E S 11$ | CEFF40 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Induction Catering and Buffet Equipment (120V)

| Make/Model | Garland <br> GI-HO 1500 <br> Induction <br> Warmer | Spring USA <br> QS7230 Warming <br> table | Vollrath <br> 7552280 <br> $60 "$ Buffet Table | Bon Chef <br> 50120 Induction Buffet <br> Case | Bon Chef <br> 50102 96" Buffet <br> Table |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Residential Electric Cooking

The LED "flame" of a Samsung induction stove (at left) is an example of how intuitive it can be to transition to cleaner, faster, and safer all-electric cooking. Natural gas stoves cause unhealthy levels of Nitrous Oxides that would be illegal if it were from a gas power plant. After just 20 minutes of cooking and a sunny window, a kitchen can have actual smog and trigger asthma and lung ailments. Gas cooking appliances are $25-40 \%$ efficient, while electric cooking appliances are $70-95 \%$ efficient, meaning electric kitchens use $1 / 3^{\text {rd }}$ as much energy and require only $1 / 3$ rd as much cooling. Using electric appliances avoids the construction costs and costs to run extra gas venting equipment. In addition to being more efficient, induction cooking appliances are faster, provide more temperature control and cause less kitchen fires than gas or radiant electric stoves. ${ }^{42}$ Below are products that facilitate both retrofits and new construction with high performance cooking equipment. Countertop products do not require any installation retrofits and plug into a standard wall outlet. Drop-in cooktops, on the other hand, are installed into a cut-out of the countertop and hard-wired to a 120 V or 240 V outlet. Electric cooking comes in a variety of technologies, standard electric, glass top radiant electric, and induction.
Glass Top Radiant Range (\$550 or less)

| Make/Model | Amana <br> AER6303MFS | Whirlpool <br> WFE320MOES | Frigidaire <br> FFEF3052TS | GE Appliances <br> JBS60DKBB |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Max Power (Watts) | 1,800 |  |  |  |
| Price |  |  |  |  |
| Oven space (cu. ft ) | 4.8 |  |  |  |

Glass Top Radiant Range (Greater than $\$ 500$ ) (240V using a 40amp circuit)

| Make/Model | Kenmore <br> 92612 |
| :--- | :---: |
|  |  |




| Max Power <br> (Watts) | 9,600 | 9,600 | 13,500 | 14,800 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price | $\$ 700$ | $\$ 700$ | $\$ 1,700$ | $\$ 2,200$ |
| Oven Space (cu. <br> ft) | 4.9 | 5.9 | 6.3 | 4.6 |

Slide-In Induction Range (Lowest Cost, 240V, 40 amp)

| Make/Model | Frigidaire <br> FGIH3047VF | LG <br> LSE4616ST | Samsung <br> Virtual Flame <br> NE58K9560WS | GE <br> Profile <br> PHS930SLSS | Frigidaire <br> Gallery <br> FGIS3065PF |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Slide-In Induction Range (240V, 40 amp )

| Make/Model | KitchenAid <br> KSIB900ESS | Bosch <br> HII8056U | Café <br> CHS985SELSS | Bertazzoni <br> PROF304INSROT |  <br> Paykel <br> OR36SCI6R1 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price |  |  |  |  |  |

## Single Burner Countertop Induction (1800W, 120V and using a 15amp circuit)

| Make/ <br> Model | Aicok | Avantco <br> ICBTM-20 <br> Light Duty | Avantco <br> IC1800 <br> Heavy Duty | Vollrath <br> PIC Platinum | Mirage Cadet <br> 59300 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Single Burner Drop-In Induction (1800W, 120V and using a 15amp circuit)


| Temp. <br> Range | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-450^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $140^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-464^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | Up to $464^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $145^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-185^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-450^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Double Burner Countertop Induction (1800W, 120V and using a 15amp circuit)

| Make/ <br> Model | Eurodib <br> S2F1 | NuWave <br> PIC Double | Inducto | Avantco | Duxtop <br> IC18DB |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Multi Burner Induction Stovetops (9600W, 240V using a 40amp circuit)

| Make/ | Empava |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Model |  |
|  | IDC-36 36" | | KitchenAid |
| :---: |
| KCES556 HSS |
|  |

## Cooking Energy Use with High Efficiency Cookware

Five types of cookware were compared to find the lowest possible use of cooking energy. Three are insulated: a Crock-Pot slow cooker, a COSORI pressure cooker and an Air Core insulated pot and two non-insulated; a SUNAVO electric hotplate and a Avantco countertop induction range. The standard cooking material used for each type of cookware was chickpeas. One cup of dried chickpeas was soaked for 8 hours, and drained. It was then added to the cookware with 4 cups of room temperature water. The chickpeas were declared fully cooked when the color change was consistent all the way through but not so far as the chickpea would become saturated and loses it structure. For both stovetop methods the pot of water was brought to a boil then left to simmer until the chickpeas cooked to the required texture. Time and energy use in kWh were taken from a P3 P4400 Kill A Watt Electricity Use Monitor.

Insulating your cookware saves energy by dramatically reducing heat loss during cooking. This study concluded that the ideal cookware to reduce energy use are the pressure cooker or slow cooker. Time is always a factor when it comes to the convenience of cooking, so pressure cooker is a great way to limit cooking time while getting similar low energy use as a slow cooker. For a traditional cooking experience, the induction stove top is a great alternative to the electric resistance cooktop. This method saves about 40 minutes in cooking time and uses about $22 \%$ less energy.

|  | Crock-Pot <br> SCR200-R <br> slow cooker | COSORI <br> C3120-PC <br> pressure <br> cooker | Avantco <br> IC1800 <br> countertop <br> induction <br> range | SUNAVO <br> 1500 w <br> electric <br> resistance <br> cooktop | Air Core <br> insulated pot w/ <br> SUNAVO <br> electric resistance |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Energy use (kWh) | 0.19 | 0.19 | 0.64 | 0.82 | 0.31 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cost (cents) | $3.2 \not \subset$ | $3.2 \not \subset$ | $10.7 \not \subset$ | $13.7 \not \subset$ | $5.2 \not \subset$ |

*Cost is calculated from the Californian 2019 average of 16.7 cents per kWh.

## Countertop Ovens (120V)

Are you looking to cook a full rotisserie chicken, but live in a tiny home or small electrified apartment? Well look no further, you can live large on a small circuit - countertop kitchen ovens are widely popular and can satisfy your oven cooking needs. The collection below represents the largest countertop ovens on the market that have various functions like convection and air fry technology.

|  |  | Aobosi <br> Convection Toaster Oven | Galanz Airfry Toaster Oven | Oster <br> Countertop Oven |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Oven Size (ft ${ }^{3}$ ) | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.3 |
| Dimensions (DxWxH) (in) | $16.1 \times 22.0 \times 14.4$ | $26.2 \times 19 \times 18.5$ | $19.3 \times 21.8 \times 13.0$ | $22.0 \times 19.5 \times 13.0$ |
| Power (W) | 1800 | 1500 | 1800 | 1525 |
| Price | \$133 | \$169 | \$199 | \$220 |
| Remarks | Mfr. Claims to be able to roast a 20 lb . turkey | Has rotisserie as well as upper and lower heating element settings | "Toast function" French doors | French doors, dials, or digital touch interface. |

## Electric Laundry Dryers

As our building systems become more efficient, the energy use of appliances becomes more apparent. Laundry loads can sometimes be the largest load, so ensuring that the most efficient equipment is used is important. More surprising may be that the first cause of high use is convenience - households with in-unit laundry run twice as many loads as households with only access to a central laundromat. ${ }^{43}$ While washing machines and clothes dryers use about the same amount of motor energy per load, boiling the water out of wet laundry uses $81 \%$ of all the energy in an average laundry load in $2010,{ }^{44}$ assuming one is using a standard $\sim 30 \%$ efficient gas dryer, rather than a $\sim 250 \%$ efficient electric heat pump dryer.

ENERGY STAR, a program led by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), aims to inform consumers and businesses on how to cut down on operating costs by listing and ranking energy efficient products ${ }^{45}$. Until recently, both residential and commercial/coin-operated clothes drying machines were excluded from the list of ENERGY STAR rated appliances because of their consistently high-power demand between all products available on the market. Innovative technologies like moisture sensors, heat pump drying and condensation drying have led to a rise in the availability of residential-grade ENERGY STAR rated dryers. ${ }^{46}$ Some examples of residential-grade ENERGY STAR washers and dryers are shown below: standard, combined condensing washer and dryers and heat pump dryers.

## Combination Condensing Washer and Dryer

Condensing washer/dryer combine both space and energy efficiency and are ventless - laundry water instead goes down the drain. They are most common in retrofitted apartments in Europe, and run on 120 V outlets, using as much energy as a hair dryer on medium and stresses fabrics less. After washing the clothes, the same machine dries the laundry using a condenser.
A laundry cycle, from loading to unloading, takes 2-3 hours.
Combination Condensing Washer \& Dryer (120V)

|  | Magic Chef <br> MCSCWD20W <br> 3 | Haier <br> HLC1700AXW | Summit <br> SPWD2201SS | Deco <br> DC4400CV | Whirlpool <br> WFC8090GX | WM3998HBA |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

*energy based on older model

## Heat Pump Dryers

Heat pump dryers are also ventless but maintain a higher temperature than a condensing dryer and lower than that of electric resistance, and therefore dry clothing at a rate between the two. Note that smaller drum sizes hold less clothes, and consequently take less time to dry. Hybrid heat pump dryers combine resistance elements and heat pump technology to improve overall energy efficiency.
Heat Pump Dryers (240V)

|  | Samsung <br> DV22N685H | Blomberg <br> DHP24400W | Kenmore <br> Elite 81783 | Beko <br> HPD24412W | Whirlpool <br> Hybrid <br> WHD560CHW | Miele <br> TWI180WP |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## Standard Electric Dryers

ENERGY STAR ranked laundry dryers use a variety of strategies to better eliminate water from clothes, such as fans, humidity sensors and heating technologies. Electric resistance dryers require a vent, while condensing dryers do not. The following products use electric resistance to dry clothes.

Standard Electric Dryers (240V)

|  | Samsung <br> DV45K76E | LG <br> DLE1501 | GE <br> GTD65EB | Maytag <br> MED3500W | Whirlpool <br> WED75HEFW | Electrolux <br> EFME417 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicles create no direct air pollution and use just $1 / 3$ rd the energy of gas engines. Electric vehicles are the key to reducing the carbon impact of driving, and their battery systems can provide resilience to your home by running critical electric loads when the power goes out - see below discussion of Vehicle to Home charging. The below section provides a list of 2019 model electric vehicles with their specifications, provided by Menlo Spark. ${ }^{47}$ For inspiration is also an example of a 1946 pickup truck electrification.

Figure 26: Electric Vehicle Buyer's Guide - August 2020 (Source: Menlo Spark)



## 1946 Ford Pickup Truck Gas to Electric Conversion

Story from Franklin Energy
"Commuting by bike in Oakland and inhaling the exhaust of a 1950s Chevy made it clear I could not put our fixer-up dream truck, a classic 1946 Ford pickup, back on the road with a gas engine. The climate friendly solution? Electrify it! After a couple of years of puttering and painting, we have an allelectric antique with a maximum cruising and parading range of 30 miles - enough. The Motor went from 400 lb . flat V-8 engine with 160 lb . of fuel, 560 totals, to a 60 lb . motor with 300 lb . of batteries $360 \mathrm{lb} ., 200 \mathrm{lb}$. lighter than before. Level 1 charging is accessed under gas tank cap and Level 2 at front of truck. The battery design includes handmade battery racks, hood latch, and weatherproofing - a labor of love that can share the road with bicyclists."


Figure 27: Electrified 1946 Fork Pickup truck. ${ }^{48}$

## Vehicle to Home and Vehicle to Grid Charging

Vehicle-to-Home Charging was developed in Japan after the 2011 tsunami closed the nation's nuclear power plants. Nissan pioneered the concept of "Vehicle-to-Home" (V2H) which uses a charger to isolate a home from the grid and draws on the vehicle's battery power for its electrical needs when grid power is not available. Nissan estimates that its all-electric Leaf can power an average home in Japan for two to four days without solar, ${ }^{49}$ and with rooftop solar the system is sufficient for off grid living most of the year. The term "Vehicle-to-Grid" (V2G) describes the situation where the car's excess electricity is provided to the grid. The International Energy Agency estimated that in 2030 there will be 130 million electric vehicles on the road, which will contain almost ten times the amount of energy storage needed for a renewably powered grid. ${ }^{50}$

Available Soon in the United States

|  | Wallbox ${ }^{51}$ Quasar | Ossiaco ${ }^{52}$ dcbel | Nuvve ${ }^{53}$ PowerPort | Fermata Energy ${ }^{54}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Vehicle-toHome | X | X |  | X |
| Vehicle-toGrid |  |  | X | X |
| Other Capabilities | - It charges and discharges through a CHAdeMO vehicle connector <br> - Max power of 7.4 kW | - Also operates as a solar inverter and home energy management system | - Max 3-phase power of 99 kW <br> - Max single-phase power of 19 kW | - Commercia I and residential capabilities |

## Not Available in the United States

A plethora of companies outside the United States have V2H and V2G chargers, demonstrating that these products are tried and tested and ready to come to the United States. Using a car's battery to power your home or to give back to the grid will be an essential service in our all-electric future.


## Energy Management Systems

Energy Management Systems monitor energy in the home as well as control it. The smart panels and smart circuit splitters shown below can avoid power upgrades by prioritizing different electric loads, like pausing EV charging, allowing the dryer to run, then restarting EV charging. Other products allow scheduling loads, connecting with solar PV, and home battery charging optimization, among many other features. (The Ossiaco product above also has energy management capabilities).
Whole House Panels

| Thermolec ${ }^{55}$ DCC-9 | Span ${ }^{56}$ | Eaton ${ }^{57}$ Pow-R-Command | Koben ${ }^{58}$ <br> GENIUS Smart Panel |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$1025-1125 | \$2,500 including installation costs | TBA | TBA |
| - Connects EV charger to panel to manage energy loads <br> - real-time reading of total power use of electrical panel; if panel exceeds $80 \%$ rated load, then temporarily deenergizes the vehicle charger. Reconnects automatically when other loads allow | - Replaces traditional electrical panel in the home <br> - Can monitor and control electrical use at the circuit level <br> - Puts control into the hands of the homeowner with intuitive smartphone app <br> - Plug in play solution for rooftop solar, battery storage and EV charging | - Control lighting and plug loads with time and space occupancy schedules to maximize energy savings <br> - $15 \mathrm{~A}, 20 \mathrm{~A}$ and 30 A configurations in singleand two-pole models suitable for voltage systems up to 480 V <br> - Can add expansion panels up to 168 controllable circuit breakers | - Replaces old electrical panel and allows home to become "Smart Grid" ready <br> - integrates EV Charging, Solar, Battery Storage, Generator and your trusted energy provider whether you are planning for the new energy era or have already installed your new energy technology. |

## Subpanels

| Eaton ${ }^{59}$ Energy Management Circuit Breaker (EMCB) | - Programmable breakers to prioritize loads in restoration scenarios, control shedding of lighting and plug loads <br> - Remote cycling of HVAC, WH, to offset energy demands and save money <br> - Can connect with solar monitoring, home networks and demand response <br> - In the future could simplify EV charging | Lumin ${ }^{60}$ Smart Panel $\square$ / <br> lumin | - Real time balancing of battery use and charging <br> - Manages renewable generation, energy use and storage <br> - Dynamic switching of loads based on time of use rates <br> - Off-grid mode sheds non-critical loads and islands <br> - Can pair with batteries to create an integrated energy management system, removes requirement of a subpanel or protected loads panel <br> - Programmable schedules to automatically control loads <br> - Max size: (x6) 60A, (x6) 30A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Smart Circuit Splitters (EV Charging and Appliances)

| Thermolec ${ }^{6}$ DCC-9 | Neo Charge ${ }^{62}$ Smart Splitter | BSA Electronics ${ }^{6}$ Dryer Buddy | SimpleSwitch ${ }^{64}$ 240V Circuit Switch | SimpleSwitch ${ }^{65}$ 120V / EV Circuit Switch |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \$ 1,050(\text { DCC-9), } \\ & \$ 945 \text { (DCC-10) } \end{aligned}$ | \$450 (smart splitter and appliances) $\$ 500$ (dual car splitter, on-the-go) | \$200-365 (several outlet versions) | \$550 (240V) | \$550 (120V) / \$650 (EV) |
| - Connects EV charger to panel to manage energy loads <br> - Real-time reading of total power use of electrical panel; if panel exceeds 80\% rated load, then temporarily de-energizes the vehicle charger. Reconnects automatically when other loads allow <br> - DCC-10 uses one double pole breaker slot | - Level 2 charging without rewiring or panel upgrade <br> - Pauses EV charging for other large loads then resumes charging <br> - "Dual car" option - charge two EVS at half power, or fully charge one then the other <br> - "Dual appliance" option can allow water heaters and dryers to share a circuit | - Plugs into a 30A circuit (common dryer plug) and allows for vehicle charging while dryer is not in use. <br> - It has a digital display that shows the draw of each load. <br> - Versions available with different outlet types depending on what appliance you have | - One load is the "primary" load and the other is the "auxiliary" - if the primary load comes on, the auxiliary load will shut off. <br> - 240 V version is UL-listed for use with breakers up to 50A <br> - No permits needed for install - save on costs <br> - Can be configured to split the circuit | - Circuit switching is the same process as the 240 V version <br> - EV version is EVSE Level 2 and comes with built-in 24-amp or 32-amp charger <br> - Buy one product to tee-off your new EV circuit and charge your new EV <br> - Useful for short-load/cyclic-load sharing such as electric cooking with overnight EV charging <br> - 120 V version available for purchase empowers low-power circuit sharing in trailer homes and apartments with limited panel space |
| Hardwired, can use your favorite rated NEMA outlet | NEMA 10-30, 14-30, 14-50 (10-50 for portable) | NEMA $10-30$ to $10-$ 30, 10-30 to 14-50, 14-30 to 14-30 | NEMA rated plugs standard Optionally hardwired, can use your favorite rated NEMA outlet | NEMA rated plugs standard Optionally hardwired, can use your favorite rated NEMA outlet |
| Shuts off EV load when panel reaches $80 \%$ load | Turns off one appliance when the other comes on | Shares power between appliance and EV (both powered) | Turns off one appliance when the other comes on | Turns off one appliance when the other comes on |

## Solar Photovoltaic Panels

The cost of installing solar in a home depends on the amount of electricity a homeowner wants to generate. A bigger system can be more costly because it requires more equipment or labor, and design time if the roof is complex. Over the last 10 years residential photovoltaic systems have dropped more than $60 \%$ for a commonly used 6 kW system from $\$ 50,000$ to about $\$ 20,000$ or less. Currently, there is a $30 \%$ tax credit from the Federal Government on installing solar in homes which is lowering to $22 \%$ in the year 2021 and by the year 2022 there will only be a $10 \%$ tax credit for commercial buildings. Some other factors that may affect the price of solar are the state you are in, how much energy you use, a roofs' sunlight exposure, and manufacturer of the panel. The break down cost of solar photovoltaic is about $47 \%$ of cost is for solar equipment, $35 \%$ of cost is for installation \& permits, and $18 \%$ of cost is for operation and improvement. Below is some of the leading manufacturers of solar panels with their associated cost.

|  | SunPower <br> Maxeon® Gen5 | Q Cells <br> Q.Peak DUO MLG9 | REC <br> Alpha | LG <br> Neon 2 | Winaico WSP-340MX $\square$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type | Monocrystallin e | Monocrystalline | Monocrystalline | Monocrystalline | Monocrystalline |
| Power Output (W) | 400 | 390 | 370 | 345 | 340 |
| Efficiency | 22.3\% | 20.8\% | 21.2\% | 20.1\% | 19.4\% |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Size (in) } \\ & \text { (LxWxD) } \end{aligned}$ | Contact | $72.4 \times 40.6 \times 1.3$ | $67.8 \times 40 \times 1.2$ | $66.9 \times 40 \times 1.6$ | $67.2 \times 40.5 \times 1.4$ |
| Price (\$) |  | \$240 | \$360 | \$310 | Contact Winaico |


|  | Solaria PowerXT-370RPD | Panasonic HIT | Trina | Canadian Solar | Jinko Solar |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type | Monocrystalline | Monocrystallin e | Monocrystallin e | monocrystalline | monocrystalline |
| Power Output (W) | 370 | 340 | 275-315 | 237-255 | 455 |
| Efficiency | 19.4\% | 20.3\% | 19.2\% | 19.9\% | 20.6\% |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Size (in) } \\ & \text { (LxWxD) } \end{aligned}$ | $63.8 \times 43.9 \times 1.6$ | $62.6 \times 41.5 \times 1.6$ | $65.0 \times 39.1 \times 1.38$ | $81.8 \times 39.1 \times 1.38$ | $85.91 \times 40.51 \times 1.59$ |
| Price (\$) | \$360 | \$340 | contact | contact | Contact |

## Electric Battery Storage

Battery storage provides resiliency during disasters and restoration efforts, can be sold to utilities as a resource for their grid management, or allow you to go off-grid in more rural regions. Solar electric panels, with rare examples of residential wind turbines and micro hydro dams, are paired with batteries and often an energy management system to make it easy for occupants to live within their energy budget. An innovation discussed above, vehicle to home charging, gives the possibility of delivering more power to a home with an electric car, a needed alternative to the too-common practice of using gas generators to meet loads during the least sunny parts of a winter. Owners and builders can include the full solar plus energy storage when they build or remodel, or pre-wire for the capability to add these systems later.

## Battery Systems

Battery systems have dropped $87 \%$ in price over the last decade, from $\$ 1100 / \mathrm{kWh}$ in 2010 to $\$ 156 / \mathrm{kWh}$ in 2019, helping drive the rapid international growth in affordable electric vehicles and home batteries. ${ }^{66}$ Home batteries can be modest and scaled to a reduced set of power needs during restoration, or large and able to take your home "off-grid" altogether. Home batteries are now so common that you can pick up a Yeti battery power pack as an alternative to a home generator at Home Depot. ${ }^{67}$ Sunshine is roughly $1 / 5$ th as strong on Winter Solstice as Summer Solstice, which makes powering a home off grid with just solar panels a challenge without significant efficiency efforts, resorting to fossil fuel generators, or getting power from a grid-charged electric car (see below Vehicle to Home section). Home batteries are made with a variety of chemicals and minerals, but leading products currently all incorporate Lithium, which is highly reactive, lightweight, and relatively common, found on every continent in rocks of volcanic origin and mined heavily in Chile, Australia, and China. Some manufacturers such as Sonnen include inverters Wi-Fi integration and in the cabinet as a standalone unit.

|  | DC Batteries |  |  | AC Batteries |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DC Battery | Blue <br> Planet <br> Energy | $\begin{gathered} \text { LG } \\ \text { RESU } 10 \mathrm{H} \end{gathered}$ | SimpliPhi <br> Power 2.4 | Tesla Powerwall | Panasonic EVDC-105 | Sonnen Eco | Sonnen EcoLinx |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |
| Capacity (kWh) | 8, 12, 16 | 9.3 | 2.4 | 13.5 (combinati ons up to 135) | 5.7, 11.4, 17.1 | $\begin{gathered} 5-20 \\ (2.5 \mathrm{kWh} \\ \text { steps) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10,12 \\ & 14,16 \\ & 18,20 \end{aligned}$ |
| Round Trip Eff. | 98\% | 94.5\% | 98.0\% | 98\% | 89\% | 90\% | 86\% |
| Chemistry | Lithium Iron Phosphat e | Lithium-ion | Lithium Iron Phosphate | Lithium Nickel Manganese Cobalt Oxide | Lithium-ion | Lithium Iron Phosphat e | Lithium Iron Phosphat e |
| Price | - | \$5,520 | - | $\begin{gathered} \$ 7,600 \\ (+\$ 2,500 \\ \text { install) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \$ 12,700, \\ & \$ 15,300 \\ & \$ 18,500 \end{aligned}$ | \$9,000 (5kwh) | - |

## Electric Landscaping

Powerful electric landscaping equipment uses lightweight batteries and efficient motors that are half as loud as gas equivalents, produce no local air pollution, and are easier to maintain. Modern batteries now offer comparable length of operating time to gas tanks, and batteries are safer to store than gasoline, oil, and rags.


|  | Blower | Chain Saw | Pole Pruner | Trimmer | Hedge Trimmer |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\circ}{4} \\ & \stackrel{1}{E} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BGA } 100 \\ & (\$ 350) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MSA } 160 \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{BQ} \\ & (\$ 350) \end{aligned}$ |  | FSA 130 R (\$400) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { HAS 94R } \\ & (\$ 500) \\ & \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\circ}{0} \\ & \stackrel{1}{0} \\ & \frac{1}{0} \\ & \text { O} \\ & \text { ? } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 536LiPT5 } \\ & (\$ 500) \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 536LiHD60X } \\ & (\$ 430) \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \frac{0}{\overline{0}} \\ & \stackrel{0}{2} \\ & \underset{\alpha}{2} \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RY40250 } \\ & (\$ 160) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RY40610A } \\ & \text { (\$150) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RY48ZTR100 } \\ & (\$ 4100) \end{aligned}$ |

*Prices will vary - visit retailers for the most current cost information.

## Electric Snowblowers

There is a wide range of electric snowblowers on the market ranging in cost from a few hundred up to about $\$ 800$ USD. The are many benefits of electric vs. gas snowblowers: they do not require oil changes, filter changes, new spark plugs, or any gasoline; storage and use is safer; they are significantly quieter; produce less emission; and can be cordless with battery power.

|  | EO SNT2102 | Snow Joe iON18SB | PowerSmart DB2401 | Earthwise SN74018 |  | Snow Joe Ultra SJ620 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Terrain | Paved \& Gravel | Flat/Paved | Flat/Paved | Flat/Paved | Flat/pave d | $\begin{gathered} \text { Flat/pave } \\ \text { d } \end{gathered}$ |
| Snow handling | Heavy wet to fluffy light | Heavy wet to fluffy light | Moderate dry to fluffy light | Heavy wet to fluffy light | Fluffy light | Fluffy light |
| Lbs. of snow/min | 1500 | 500 | 700 | 500 | 700 | 650 |
| Battery requirements | (2) 56 -Volt 5.0Ah <br> Lithium- Ion | 40-Volt 4.0- <br> Ah LithiumIon | 40-Volt 4.0 <br> Ah LithiumIon | 40-Volt 4.0 <br> Ah LithiumIon | - | - |
| Run time | 15 minutes | 65 minutes | 25 minuets | 30 minuets | - | - |
| Throwing distance | 35 ft | 20 ft | 30ft | 30ft | 30ft | 20 ft |
| Clearance in. $(W \times D)$ | $21 \times 10$ | $18 \times 8$ | $18 \times 11$ | $18 \times 12$ | $18 \times 8$ | $18 \times 10$ |
| Weight | 70 lbs. | 32 lbs . | 18.5 lbs . | 35 lbs . | 25 lbs . | 31.5 lbs . |
| Price | \$600* | \$300* | \$270* | \$250* | \$280 | \$150 |

*batteries and charger included

## Electric Snowmobiles

Gas-powered snowmobiles have little to no standards and many have two stroke engines causing them to be sometimes as much as 50 times more polluting than the average car. ${ }^{1}$ Less emissions and pollution is an obvious plus, but financially these machines also have the huge advantage of no improvement costs. There is no fuel, no oil, no transmission, and no drive belts so the cost of operation is much lower and that means more time can be spent out riding rather than doing costly fixes back at home. These snowmobiles are compatible with and can charge anywhere with automotive standard equipment. The average charging time with the AC 240 V L2 charger is 2 hours but now there is also a DC fast charger which can bring the battery up to $80 \%$ in just 20 minutes. ${ }^{71}$


| Range (km) | 131 | 140 | 134 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Engine Package | 180 hp | 180 hp | 120 hp |
| Battery | 27 kWh | 27 kWh | 27 kWh |
| Weight (ride <br> ready) | $66 \mathrm{~kg} / 586 \mathrm{lbs}$ | $271 \mathrm{~kg} / 597 \mathrm{lbs}$ | $275 \mathrm{~kg} / 607 \mathrm{lbs}$ |

## Electric Fireplaces

Swirling, fire-like mist lit with LEDs and a campfire's worth of heat: these are electric fireplaces. They are less expensive than gas stoves, safer, cleaner, and plug into a normal 120V wall outlet. They provide heat in a more efficient and smokeless way - a 3,000-Watt electric fireplace can warm spaces up to 800 feet and look great doing it. From convincing to dramatic, electric fireplaces are ready to match the tastes of any owner. Outdoor electric space heaters are similarly versatile and ready to replace headache-inducing propane burners.

## What is a water vapor fireplace?

Ultra-fine water vapor, LED lights, and


Figure 28: A Dimplex Opti-Myst cassette within a commercial space. ${ }^{72}$ different air pressures allow realism within the mist flames to replace actual fire to reduce emissions in a building. A transducer helps convert pressure into an electrical signal that forms ultrasounds that vibrates water and turns it into ultra-fine water vapor and LED lights illuminate a life-like flame effect. The depth of the frame can be customized as well by adjusting the opening where the water vapor comes out. Opti-Myst has many different styles of LED water vapor fireplaces to provide a more comfortable aesthetic environment in residential, commercial, and high-rise buildings. A Firewater has also released a set of fireplaces that consist of water vapor flames with multicolored options to provide occupant comfort within public and private spaces.

## Why buy an LED fireplace?

These fireplaces do not only feel like a real fireplace, but they are the safest and cleanest electric technologies to put within a home or office. Unlike real fireplaces, they are not emitting $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ into a space and can be controlled for optimal comfort and aesthetics.

|  | Dimplex OptiMyst (CDFI 500PRO) | Dimplex Opti-Myst (CDFI 1000-PRO) | AFIREWATER <br> reysuremis arfat | Dimplex OptiMyst (GBF 1000-PRO) | Dimplex OptiMyst (GBF 1500-PRO) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price (\$) | \$1,430 | \$2,640 | \$3,460 | \$3,630 | \$5,640 |
| Power (Watt) | 230 | 460 | 60-180 | 1400 | 1460 |


| Amps | 1.91 | 3.8 | Not Available | 11.67 | 12.17 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Voltage <br> (V) | 120 | 120 | 120 | 120 | 120 |
| Heating <br> (BTU) | 785 | Not Available | Not Available | 4981 | 4981 |

## Electric Outdoor Heaters

Keeping warm outside does not need to come from odorous and polluting propane outdoor heaters, there are many electric equivalents that range from wall mounted high power 240 V to free standing 120 V options for your outdoor heating needs.
Wall Mounted

|  | Bronic | Sunheat | Heatstrip |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Power (W) | 2300 | 4500 | 6000 |
| Voltage (V) | 240 | 240 | 240 |
| Price | \$985 | \$450 | \$800 |
|  | Infratrech | RADtec | Heatstrip |
| Power (W) | 6000 | 1500 | 1500 |
| Voltage (V) | 240 | 120 | 120 |
| Price | \$800 | \$150 | \$200 |

Free Standing

| Ener-G+ | Fire sense | Aura |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## Electric Barbeques

Electric BBQ grills heat up much more quickly than charcoal or gas grills and distribute heat more evenly over the entire grill area. With no charcoal fumes and no propane gas burning, they are safer and can be used indoors in inclement weather. Electric grills are cheaper to operate, clean up easier, need little improvement and can also be used in high rise buildings where typical combustion grills are not allowed due to fire code restrictions.

|  | Electri Chef <br> The Safire 115V | Electri Chef <br> Emerald 24" | Electri Chef <br> Ruby 32" Built-in | Kenyon <br> B70590 | Kenyon <br> B70060 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


|  | Weber <br> Char-Broil <br> 804142 | Kuma <br> Profile 150 | Americana <br> 935948.181 <br> E-50S |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cookin <br> g <br> Surface <br> (sq. in.) | 280 | 240 | 145 | 200 | 173 |
| Price | $\$ 320$ |  | $\$ 200$ | $\$ 220$ | 110 |
| Voltage | 120 V | 120 V |  | $\$ 245$ | 120 V |


|  | Fire Magic <br> E250S-1Z1E-P6 | Char-Broil <br> Patio Bistro 240 | Weber <br> Q 2400 | Meco <br> Easy Street | Floridian |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cooking <br> Surface <br> (sq. in.) | 240 | 240 | 280 | 200 | 240 |
| Price | $\$ 1400$ | $\$ 190$ | $\$ 246$ | $\$ 248$ | $\$ 710$ |


| Type | Patio Post | Mobile | Mobile | Mobile | Built-in |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Voltage/ <br> Amp | $120 \mathrm{~V} / 20 \mathrm{~A}$ | $120 \mathrm{~V} / 15 \mathrm{~A}$ | $120 \mathrm{~V} / 13 \mathrm{~A}$ | $120 \mathrm{~V} / 12.5 \mathrm{~A}$ | $240 \mathrm{~V} / 5.5 \mathrm{~A}$ |
| Heat Output | 1800 W | 1750 W | 1560 W | 1500 W | 1300 W |

## Electrically Heated Swimming Pools and Hoł Tubs

Utilizing a heat pump can be an efficient way to address the energy demands of heating a pool. To size a heat pump pool heater, assume the heat pump must produce 4 to 6 BTUs/hour for each gallon of heated pool water, with higher productivity needed when the incoming water is colder in the winter. In addition, solar thermal can be an efficient way to heat pools or supplement pool heating.


Figure 29: Pacific Companies Zero Net Energy apartment complexes built in 2014 use heat pumps for the hot tub and swimming pools (left King Station Apartments, King City, CA and right Belle Vista Senior Apartments, Lakeport, CA.)

Listed briefly below are heat pumps specifically designed for pools and cost \$2400-\$4200 for 90,000 BTUs/hr. to 140,000 BTUs/hr. of heating, about $1 / 10^{\text {th }}$ the price of a similar-sized solar thermal pool heater. Heat pumps significantly reduce construction costs compared to solar thermal while providing the same $\sim 80 \%$ offset of energy use by using ambient heat in the air, while working all 12 months of a year, compared to five to eight months of renewable pool heating with solar thermal panels.

|  | Hayward <br> HeatPro Electric <br> Heater | Pentair <br> UltraTemp 110 <br> Heat Pump | PHNIX | AquaCal <br> HeatWave <br> SuperQuiet <br> SQ120R | AquaCal <br> Great Big <br> Bopper |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Electric Sauna Heaters

The following section offers alternatives to gas powered saunas: electric resistance and infrared. Electric resistance saunas offer an experience just like traditional saunas - electric resistance coils warm up rocks so that water can be poured over them to create steam. Infrared saunas are different from traditional steam saunas - they use low intensity infrared lights to increase body temperature, which is better for the lifetime of the wood rooms and creates an enjoyable experience comparable to steam.

Electric Resistance, heater unit only (240V)

| Model | Finlandia <br> FLB30-ESH | Finlandia <br> FLB80-ESH | Polar <br> HNVR 45SC | Harvia <br> HPC-HTR61 | Harvia <br> HNC-HTR105 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Picture |  |  |  |  |  |

Infrared, Full Room (120V)

| Model | JNH Lifestyles <br> MG217HB | Radiant Saunas <br> BSA2409 | Cedarbrook <br> CBLGTMD1 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Picture |  |  |  |  |

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Expected measure life for each measure was taken from Consumers Energy 2021 Measure Database.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Assumptions for the solar array generation are based on $35.3^{\circ}$ tilt, south facing array with $12 \%$ system losses in Grand Rapids, Michigan. NREL's PV Watts Calculator was used for the calculations.

[^2]:    *ER = electric resistance, HP = heat pump, *No low cut off temperature when using ER

