

Home Energy Assessments

Why we care

When policy makers don't take steps to address global warming, there are still actions individuals can take to make a difference. To save energy, you've heard the admonitions, "turn off lights" and "turn down the thermostat," but there's something that can have an even greater impact: have a home energy assessment and carry out the recommendations. You will cut fuel use, save money, and make your home more comfortable.

Nearly half the energy you use in your home is for space heating and cooling, and **any** fuel you use emits carbon (Oregon still imports coal and natural gas). If you are trying to conserve energy, you don't want to lose heat through leaky walls and windows.

Simple, positive change

- [Energy Trust of Oregon](#) offers a free online home assessment, an appointment with an Energy Trust Home Energy Advisor, or a list of approved contractors who can provide a more in-depth analysis.
- Arrange for the contractor to do a walk through and give you a bid. The company will have diagnostic state-of-the-art equipment to assess measures you might take to save energy, such as more insulation, air sealing, double-pane windows, or more efficient heating/cooling systems.
- The contractor can also help you apply for incentives. For example, the federal government offers a 30% tax credit up to \$2000 for heat pumps (sunsets December 31, 2025.), and Energy Trust of Oregon offers a \$1000 incentive.
- Carry out the measures that make sense to you. One factor may be how many years before your investment is repaid through utility savings.

Questions or feedback? Contact Jeanne Roy at jeanne@ecoschoolnetwork.org.

