

Partners In Energy Home Energy Assessment

REBATE FORM AND GUIDE TO
SELECTING A HOME ENERGY SPECIALIST



www.northernutilities.com

THE HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT

Selecting a Home Energy Specialist

Hiring a contractor can be a difficult task when you aren't sure which questions to ask. Northern Utilities has prepared this simple guide to help you find an energy specialist to evaluate the energy efficiency of your home.

What is an Energy Specialist?

An Energy Specialist is a contractor you select to perform an evaluation of the energy efficiency of your home. The evaluation typically includes: an on-site inspection, air leakage testing of your home and ductwork, computer analysis of estimated savings, and a home energy rating.

How to Find an Energy Specialist

- Look in the telephone book under "Energy Services" or similar headings.
- Use the Internet.
Suggested websites:
NH Residential Energy Performance Association at www.repa-nh.org
Maine Home Performance at www.mainehomeperformance.org
Energy Star® at www.energystar.gov
Residential Energy Services Network at www.natresnet.org
Certified Raters at www.energyratings.org
- Northern Utilities can provide a list of contractors who have expressed an interest in providing home energy assessment services.*

How to Hire an Energy Specialist

- Check references.
Ask for references, including other homeowners.
- Check with the Better Business Bureau.
- Get more than one estimate.
You should obtain cost estimates from several energy specialists.
- Ask what services are covered.
- Ask questions about payment.
Is the assessment price a separate fee, or is the

assessment price deducted if you pursue the recommended energy improvements?

- Check if the contractor has appropriate insurance coverage.
Does the contractor have insurance to protect its own employees if they are injured? Are you covered if one of the contractor's employees damages your house?
- Ask for proof of current insurance.
- Check credentials.
Ask the contractor if he is certified by an industry-recognized organization.
- Make sure the energy specialist gives you a receipt so you can submit it to the Northern Utilities' Partners In Energy Program for reimbursement up to \$150.
- Ask for proper identification when the contractor arrives at your home.

Tips for Working with an Energy Specialist

- Ask how long the evaluation will take (a comprehensive evaluation can take up to three hours depending on the size of the home).
- Ask if they will provide a written report that includes individually recommended energy-saving opportunities. The opportunities and savings potential must be expressed and estimated in annual units of energy saved and based upon industry-recognized software.
- Ask if they will contract to make any of the improvements; or
- Ask if they can recommend someone who can make the improvements.

*Northern Utilities does not endorse, guarantee or warranty any particular contractor, manufacturer or product. Further, Northern Utilities does not make any representations regarding the results to be achieved as represented by any contractor. The information contained in this brochure regarding the selection of a Home Energy Specialist is for your convenience only. The selection of the contractor is the sole responsibility of you, the customer.

For additional Northern Utilities energy efficiency programs, call 800-232-0120



HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT REBATE

Program period: May 1, 2008 – April 30, 2009

300 Friberg Parkway • Westborough, MA 01581
Phone 800-232-0120/Fax 508-836-7073

Mail completed applications to the address listed above. Incomplete or faxed applications will not be processed.

CUSTOMER NAME

ADDRESS WHERE HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT WAS CONDUCTED

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE NUMBER

RESIDENTIAL HEATING ACCOUNT NUMBER

AGE OF HOME

DATE OF ASSESSMENT

WAS THE ASSESSMENT BENEFICIAL? PLEASE COMMENT.

LANDLORD/OWNER/CONTRACTOR (Name where rebate is to be mailed, if different from above)

ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

HOME ENERGY SPECIALIST COMPANY NAME

HOME ENERGY SPECIALIST NAME

HOME ENERGY SPECIALIST CREDENTIALS (BPI, HERS, or other accredited certification)

COST OF HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT

REBATE AMOUNT (cost of assessment or \$150, whichever is less)

I acknowledge that Northern Utilities has no responsibility or liability with respect to the selection of the energy specialist, the recommendations, or the services provided by the specialist. I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to the Terms and Conditions on the reverse side of this rebate form.

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE

DATE

PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a residential natural gas heating customer of Northern Utilities. Low-income customers may be eligible to receive a home energy assessment free of charge. Call 800-232-0120 for details.
- Account must be in customer's name.
- Rebate amount not to exceed actual assessment price or \$150, whichever is less.
- Limit one rebate per customer account.
- Valid only for home energy assessments conducted between May 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009.
- Northern Utilities must receive the completed rebate form, contractor receipt, and home energy assessment report within 90 days from completion of home energy assessment.
- Rebate form must be accompanied by a written copy of a home energy assessment report that includes individually recommended energy-saving opportunities. The opportunities and savings potential must be expressed and estimated in annual units of energy saved and based upon industry-recognized software.
- Program subject to change without notice. Funding is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Subject to important Terms and Conditions on reverse side.

HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT REBATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. Rebates:** Through its Partners In Energy Home Energy Assessment Program (the "Program") and subject to these Terms and Conditions, Northern Utilities ("Northern") will pay a rebate to or for the benefit of its eligible customers for a Home Energy Assessment performed by an independent Home Energy Specialist (the "Assessment"). The Home Energy Specialist is also referred to in these Terms and Conditions as the "Contractor."
- 2. Customer Eligibility:** You must be an existing residential natural gas heating customer of Northern to be eligible to participate in the Program. Low-income customers may be eligible to receive a home energy assessment free of charge. Call 800-232-0120 for details. New construction projects are not eligible for rebates. Account must be in participating customer's name. Only Assessments performed during the Program period as indicated on the rebate form are eligible for a rebate. Rebate form must be filled out completely, signed and accompanied by (a) a dated receipt/invoice and (b) a written copy of a home energy assessment report that includes individually recommended energy-saving opportunities. The opportunities must be expressed and estimated in annual units of energy saved (e.g. therms, cf, ccf, or BTUs) and must be generated by industry-recognized software. Northern must receive the rebate form and supporting documentation within ninety (90) days from the performance of the Assessment to be eligible for the rebate.
- 3. Warranties:** Northern does not endorse, guarantee or warranty any particular Contractor, manufacturer, product, or service.
- 4. Selection of Contractors:** Northern makes no representation of any kind regarding the results to be achieved by any Contractor. Any information provided to you regarding the selection of a Home Energy Specialist, including but not limited to the information contained in this brochure, is for your convenience only. The selection of the Contractor is the sole responsibility of you, the customer. "Do-it-yourself" home energy assessments do not qualify for rebates.
- 5. Contractor Insurance:** Northern is not responsible for any damage that may be caused as a result of recommendations or performance of services by any Contractor. Customers are strongly encouraged to choose a Contractor that carries appropriate insurance.
- 6. Customer Liability and Release:** To the fullest extent allowed by law, as part of the consideration for participating in the Program, you the customer hereby release and hold harmless Northern and the Rebate Administrator from any and all claims, losses, harm, costs, liabilities, damages and expenses (including attorneys' fees) of any nature whatsoever arising directly or indirectly out of or in connection with your selection of the Contractor, the performance of the Assessment at your premises, any material and labor required to perform the Assessment, or any actions taken in reliance upon the Assessment.
- 7. Tax Liability:** Customers participating in the Program may be subject to federal or state tax liability for the value of goods and services received through the Program. Northern and the Rebate Administrator are not responsible for any tax liability which may be imposed as a result of receipt of the rebates provided by Northern to the customer.
- 8. Rebate Amount:** Northern will provide rebates for Assessments up to the actual Assessment price or \$150, whichever is less. Rebates levels are subject to change without notice. Funding is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Limit one rebate per customer account. "Do-it-yourself" home energy assessments do not qualify for rebates.
- 9. Payment:** Northern expects to make rebate payments to eligible customers within 60 days from its receipt of the rebate form and all necessary documentation. See Section 2, "Customer Eligibility" above.
- 10. Program Modifications:** The Program, including but not limited to these Terms and Conditions, is subject to change or termination by Northern without notice.