

# Evaluation Checklist for Home Energy Use

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Housing: House \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_ Condo \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile home \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate heated square feet: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation: Basement or Cellar \_\_\_\_\_ Slab \_\_\_\_\_ Crawlspace \_\_\_\_\_

## Energy Usage

Units used per year	Energy cost per unit
Electricity _____ kwh/year	_____ \$/kwh
Natural gas _____ therms/year	_____ \$/therm
LP gas _____ gallons/year	_____ \$/gal
Wood _____ cords/year	_____ \$/cord
Pellets _____ tons/year	_____ \$/ton
Oil _____ gallons/year	_____ \$/gal
Kerosene _____ gallons/year	_____ \$/gal
Other _____/year	_____ \$/

Why do we need this information?

1. It lets us assess the home's overall condition: For example, high heating fuel usage for the home's size may indicate the need for more work than weather sealing alone and high electric usage may indicate things like a failing well pump or other similar condition.
2. Determine whether the home may qualify for deeper weatherizing assistance programs.

Note: This report should not be considered as a substitute for an audit done by a BPI certified auditor.

<b>Joints and Penetrations</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
With draft detector (incense stick, feather, tissue taped to stick) check for drafts at outside openings, cracks, and air leaks between house and foundation, as well as in cellar or crawl space. Drafts observed?			
Check for drafts at other openings: plumbing pipes through walls; exhaust fans in kitchen or bathroom; chimney or pipes going through walls, ceilings, or roof. Drafts observed?			
Draft detector moves at edges of doors and windows, especially on windy days?			
Draft detector moves at electrical outlets?			
Cracks in walls and foundations sealed and holes plugged? Broken windows, rotted boards, and window sashes fixed and in good repair?			
Cellar doors insulated and tight-sealing?			
Fireplace damper closed when fireplace not being used?			
Fireplace fitted with glass doors that are closed when in use, to keep room air from going up the chimney?			
Attic vents (unfinished attic) open summer and winter?			
Cracks and/or joints around windows, doors, stairways, pipes, and electrical wires caulked?			
Weather stripping around doors and windows?			
Air-lock entryway, double door, or insulated storm door at each outside entrance?			
<b>Insulation</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Insulated curtains or sealable window shutters or shades in use?			
Floors covered with rugs or padded carpeting?			
Ceilings and walls insulated? How much?			

Vapor barrier (plastic, foil, or heavy brown paper) between heated space and insulation?			
Insulation between slab or unheated basement and first floor?			
Basement walls and/or sill plate insulated?			
Hot water pipes and hot air ducts insulated?			
Storm windows in place and tightly sealed? If no storm windows, are temporary plastic windows installed?			
Is hot water tank insulated?			
<b>Home Maintenance</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Faucets don't drip (especially hot water faucets)?			
Low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators installed?			
Programmable thermostat adjusted to lower temperature at night and when away?			
Radiators and baseboard fins clean and dust free?			
Heating ducts, grills, or radiators not blocked by furniture, rugs, curtains?			
Windows clean to allow maximum solar gain in winter?			
Furnace cleaned and serviced before winter heating season? Filter changed or vacuumed once a month?			
Cooking done in the microwave oven or most energy-efficient appliance?			
Walls and ceilings painted or papered in light colors to reflect natural light?			
Most lighting fluorescent?			

## After the first visit (survey)

Enter the heating fuel use, *conditioned* space and zip code in this form

<http://www.nhsaves.com/homeheating/Default.aspx>

to get the home's overall heating efficiency rating. This calculation will determine whether the home may qualify for the NH Low Income Weatherization program or NH Home Performance with EnergyStar rebate program.

Once data is entered, click on "Calculate" to see the home's rating.

(the zip code incorporates heating degree-days in the calculation so only one year's fuel use is needed)

To save some time measuring the heated area, go to

<http://www.caigisonline.com/DunbartonNH/Default.aspx?Splash=True>

and refer to the "Property Card" for the home's overall and room measurements.

Step One—Collect, review, and evaluate information:

- Collect the last year's worth of energy bills to review the home's energy use.
- Using the checklist above, consider the energy-saving techniques or strategies you might implement.
- Evaluate the cost and the potential payback of any high-cost changes, such as buying new appliances, before investing.

## Return visit (remediation)

Step Two—Consider these specific energy-saving improvements:

- Joints and penetrations: caulk, seal, or weather-strip to block air infiltration.
- Insulation: check to see how much and what kind the home has, especially in the attic and cellar. Consider the need to add more insulation.
- Ventilation: install (or have installed, if necessary) exhaust fans, attic vents, or roof vents to let excess moisture out.
- Duct work: wrap pipes with insulation.
- Doors and windows: caulk or seal, pull curtains, use indoor shutters, install indoor storms, install storm doors.
- Heating and cooling systems: clean and upgrade, if possible, for efficiency.
- Appliances: upgrade older appliances (clues are in the color – harvest gold, avocado, or cocoa brown may be older models). Replace with EnergyStar-rated models.
- Water heating: insulate hot water tank with fiberglass jacket.
- Lighting: replace incandescent bulbs with CFLs (compact fluorescent light bulbs). Consider replacing older fixtures with fluorescent or LED lighting fixtures (visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) for more information).
- Prioritize planned improvements by determining which ones will produce the most savings. (You may need to measure or estimate the size of the house as well as doors, windows, and the number and types of lighting fixtures.)