

Our Energy Audit Process and What to Expect

Overview:

There are a number of things that you can expect when you have our Home Energy Audit. During the approximate 2-hour visit to your home, an Energy Auditor will collect considerable data on the structural components and mechanical systems in your home, and complete a visual inspection of your living space, attic, basement or crawlspaces. This scientific analysis includes an infrared thermal imaging scan of interior and exterior areas of your house to identify sources of major air leaks and insufficient insulation. Evidence of hidden moisture and water leaks may also be detected, which deteriorates structural components, promotes mold and decreases energy efficiency in the home.

Your information will be analyzed to determine necessary steps for increasing energy efficiency, improving comfort and reducing energy costs. The cost/benefit pay-off of improvements will also be calculated based on the local utility costs.

Prior to Our Arrival:

In order to achieve an accurate survey it is suggested that the customer prepare for the survey by doing the following:

- Remove any heavy window coverings that may interfere with a clear scan of the window frames. Window coverings prevent the window frames and adjacent walls from being conditioned properly, and may result in exaggerated results.
- Open all closet doors. Conditioning the interior of the closets will help to identify any exterior wall problems located within this area.
- Make sure all windows and doors are kept closed for several hours prior to the survey time. Indoor and outdoor temperatures should differ by at least 15-20 degrees in order to get optimum infrared results. **This is very important.** You must have adequate temperature differences between the inside and outside temperatures for the infrared scan to be able to detect problems. If the difference in temperatures is not sufficient, you may need to turn on the heat (in the colder months) or turn on the A/C (in the summer months) in order to increase the difference.
- Understand that we will visit every accessible room of the house
- Please hide anything you do not wish our auditors to see before we arrive at your home; Our inspectors are of the highest integrity and honesty and we want no misunderstandings to ever occur
- Clean all fireplaces of ashes and close all dampers

Upon Arrival:

- I will present you with a CONTRACT and request your endorsement. Once the paperwork is out of the way, the inspection process will begin

During the energy audit:

- Provide a brief tour with us of the exterior and interior of your home. We will walk around and through your home, attic, basement and crawlspaces, but it is not necessary for you to clean especially for us. It may be necessary that the doors and windows to the house remain shut, and therefore, please limit traffic in and out of the house during the audit.
- While at your home we will discuss with you conditions about the house as you know them, including comfort problems you have experienced, maintenance frequency of heating and cooling systems, drafty areas, approximate age of appliances, and other issues. If possible, please have copies available of the last 12 months of electricity, gas/propane and water bills.
- During the energy audit we will ask you to point out such things as:
 - Where the gas meter is (if fueled with Natural Gas or Propane)
 - Where fuel is delivered (if fueled by Fuel Oil)
 - Where attic and crawl space access is located
 - Where the HVAC and hot water appliances are located
 - The kitchen, as well as all bathrooms with an exhaust fan
 - Which rooms or areas seem cold (or hot in the summer)
 - All fireplaces and wood stoves
 - Any drafty rooms or areas
- We will also:
 - Note the insulation levels
 - Check flues
 - Check your HVAC system's distribution and ducting
 - Check your water heater jacket and plumbing insulation

Please be advised:

- Following your brief tour of the exterior and interior our energy auditor will be on his own to make observations and collect the necessary information
- We may wish to show you in person some items in particular
- We may have some additional questions

Payment:

- Payment is required before our home energy auditor leaves your home
- Payment can be by check or cash.

After the Audit Site Visit:

Within a week of the site visit we will issue a detailed written home energy report by mail or email that summarizes all observations and data collected, along with a list of

recommendations and explanations. A follow-up telephone consultation is available to answer questions and advise further action. .