

Home Energy Audits

Why we care

We've all been shocked by high gasoline prices this summer, and come winter, electricity and natural gas are expected to jump in price as well. Combined with the effects of global warming, these costs are motivating more of us to focus on conservation. Moving to a smaller house or selling a car are both great ways to conserve energy, but if those options aren't for you, there is still one significant step you can take: a home energy audit.

Nearly half of the energy you use in your home is for space heating, and *any* fuel you use (most electricity in Oregon is produced by burning coal or natural gas) emits carbon. If you are trying to conserve energy, you don't want to be losing heat through leaky walls and windows.

Home Energy Reviews are offered by Energy Trust of Oregon and are funded through a small fee on your utility bill. Energy-saving suggestions from a review might include more insulation, double-pane windows, air sealing, duct sealing, or a more efficient furnace.

Simple, positive change

- Schedule an appointment at www.energytrust.org/HER or call 1-866-368-7878. An energy expert will come to your house and suggest measures you can take to cut fossil fuel use, save money, and make your home more comfortable.
- Carry out the measures that make sense to you. You may consider how many years it takes to pay off your investment through utility savings.
- Apply for Energy Trust cash-back incentives and state tax credits.

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