citizens gas™

CitizensEnergySavers

For Homes

91% of all newly built single-family homes in the Midwest choose natural gas heat.

Calculate your energy savings based on your home's specific characteristics at CitizensEnergySavers.com. Use the online Energy Calculator!

Potential Savings from Upgrading to Energy Efficient Equipment

Size of home (square feet)	Annual Energy Savings (therms)	Annual Savings
1,300, 1-story	130 to 210	$165 to $270
1,800, 2-story	150 to 250	$195 to $320
2,100, 2-story	170 to 280	$215 to $360
3,000, 2-story	215 to 365	$280 to $465
4,000, 2-story	270 to 450	$345 to $575

Estimated costs based on updating a furnace that is more than 15 years old. Savings will vary based on age of home, the furnace's efficiency rating, levels of insulation, thermostat settings and the cost of natural gas.

Programmable Thermostat

An ENERGY STAR® qualified programmable thermostat allows you to automatically dial down the temperature while you're away or asleep. You can save up to 10% per year by turning back your thermostat 10 degrees for eight hours a day.

Energy Efficient Natural Gas Furnace

Modern, high-efficiency natural gas furnaces achieve incredible operating efficiencies as high as 92 to 97% AFUE (Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiencies). Therefore, today's energy efficent equipment can prove to be a sound investment by providing you 92 to 97 cents worth of heat into the living area for each dollar of gas purchased.

A 92% or higher AFUE furnace can be up to 15% more efficient than standard models and 30 to 50% more efficient than models that are 15 to 20 years old. Although an energy efficient product can be more expensive to purchase up front, the cost difference will be paid back over time through lower energy bills.

Furthermore, by choosing the comfort of natural gas, you get a warm home all winter long. And it's reassuring knowing you're saving energy and money using the cleanest-burning and most energy efficient heating source.

Benefits of a Condensing Furnace

Condensing furnaces have the added benefit of being able to use air from outside your home for combustion. A separate pipe is installed to bring outside air directly to your furnace, which prevents cold air from being pulled into your house every time your furnace runs. This feature will help reduce your heating costs while creating better comfort by reducing cold drafts.

Make sure your contractor installs a condensing furnace with two pipes to the outside of the house; one to bring fresh air to the furnace, the other to exhaust gas from the furnace.

Benefits of Multi-Stage Firing

Your furnace must have enough capacity to meet your heating needs on the coldest day of winter. However, for most of the heating season the typical furnace provides more heating capacity than you need. Unlike a furnace with single-stage firing, that is either firing at full output or completely off, a furnace with multi-stage firing can selectively turn some burners off when the full furnace output is not needed, saving you energy and money.

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Energy Efficient Natural Gas Furnace

Efficient Use of Electricity

A gas furnace uses electricity to run the fan blower motor. Furnaces equipped with an electronically commutated motor (ECM) have lower annual operating costs and can save you $40 to $300 per year, depending on how you currently use your furnace fan. If you currently run your furnace fan all the time, an ECM will offer you the most savings. Multi-stage ECM furnaces not only save you money, they are usually much quieter and less prone to producing unpleasant drafts.

Proper Installation

Your new furnace must be installed properly to ensure that it operates safely and efficiently. The contractor should adjust the airflow so the furnace fan setting is matched to the ductwork and furnace characteristics. An improperly installed furnace can result in higher energy costs and a less comfortable home.

Operating Tips

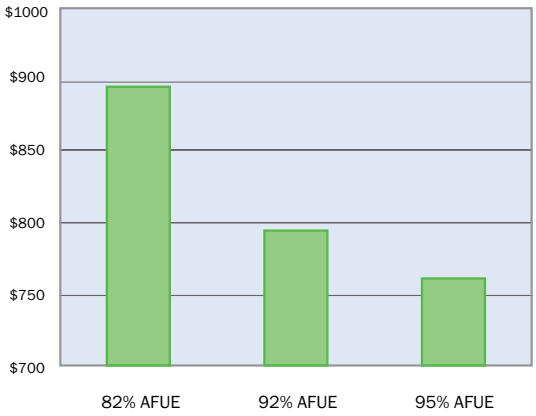
How you operate your heating system will influence how much energy you use. The following tips will help you lower your heating bill and ensure that your furnace functions safely and effi ciently.

- Turn down the thermostat a few degrees when you are away or sleeping.
- Use a programmable thermostat to adjust the temperature automatically, depending on the time of the day and the day of the week.
- Regularly clean or replace furnace filters.
- Make sure registers in occupied rooms aren't blocked by furniture or draperies.
- Have your furnace tuned up by a heating professional annually unless the manufacturer indicates otherwise.

Insulate First

Adding insulation and sealing air leaks will help keep the heat from escaping your home. Make sure your attic is properly insulated to help lower your heating and cooling costs.

Typical Annual Heating Costs in Indiana Based on Rated Furnace Efficiency



Gas costs calculated at $1.28 per therm.

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Other Resources

Citiznes Gas' online Home Energy Audit will help you pinpoint opportunities for energy savings, and its Bill Analyzer, which uses actual billing data, will help you gauge why bill amounts may vary from month to month. Use these tools at CitizensEnergySavers.com.

You may qualify for a tax credit based upon the energy efficiency rating of your new water heater. Learn more at energystar.gov or call 1-888-782-7937.