



Directing dollars to energy upgrades

Situation

- 25-year-old furnace, uneven air flow, and fluctuating temperatures along with hidden inefficiencies

Solutions

- Air sealing
- New furnace, dehumidifier, and air conditioner
- Programmable thermostat
- ENERGY STAR® appliances and light bulbs

Benefits

- Improved comfort
- Consistent air flow and temperatures
- Lower energy bills



Mallow family

After living in a 100-year-old home, Charlie Mallow and his family felt like their 1986 split-level home was a modern marvel. But the energy bills were high, the original furnace chugged away in the basement, and temperatures fluctuated widely from room to room.

Being proactive

Charlie called in a heating contractor that participates in the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® program to replace the furnace before it quit. Before doing any furnace work, the contractor performed a home energy assessment, revealing other problems affecting the home's energy efficiency. The Mallows got a detailed picture of how their home was wasting energy, including air leaks and an unsealed dryer vent in the basement. "I never would have thought to go looking for something like that," Charlie said.

Investing in energy improvements over new countertops

Charlie followed his contractor's recommendations and completed a range of energy upgrades. He said the information from the home energy assessment helped him to prioritize where the money was truly needed in his home. He admitted that without the assessment, he might have been tempted to buy new countertops rather than invest in energy efficiency improvements. In the end, the Mallows knew they made the best decision.

No energy-saving opportunity was overlooked. The Mallows started with air sealing and insulation for their home. Then, they worked on installing a new furnace, air conditioner, programmable thermostat and dehumidifier, and replacing every incandescent light bulb in the house with a more energy efficient one. The Mallows even replaced their dishwasher and refrigerator with ENERGY STAR® appliances.

Now, the Mallows feel comfortable year-round — and they are saving on their energy bills. Charlie said they are never moving again, now that "everything is taken care of."

Get started

Visit nyscrda.ny.gov/home or call **1-866-NYSERDA** to learn how you can reduce your energy consumption and costs.

"The assessment helped us to update our home and get it right the first time."

— Charlie Mallow, Webster, NY



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