

What Are Heat Pumps?

Heat pumps are a cleaner, proven technology that can provide up to 100 percent of your home's heating and cooling needs and help save on energy bills. In the summer, they work like an air conditioner to move heat outdoors, cooling your home, more efficiently than central air conditioners or window units. In the winter, the process is reversed by using electricity to move heat into your home instead of burning fuel. These systems work all winter and can reduce your energy costs, decrease your carbon footprint, and increase comfort every day.

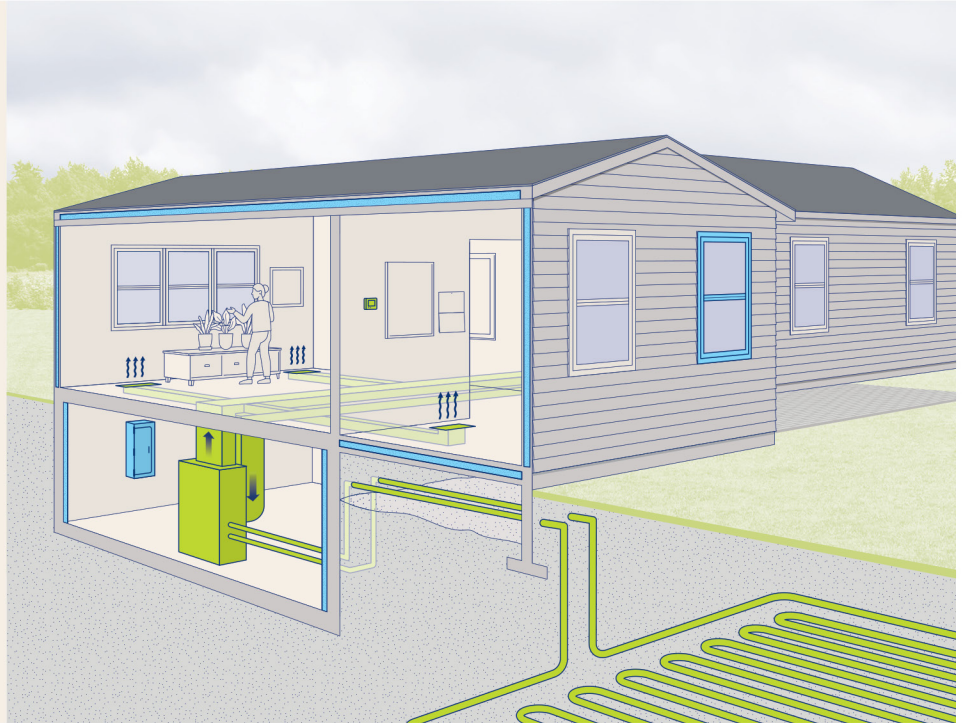
Types of Heat Pumps

Ground source or Geothermal

heat pumps use buried pipes to extract heating or cooling from below ground.

Compared to air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps are more efficient and do not require outdoor units (condensers).

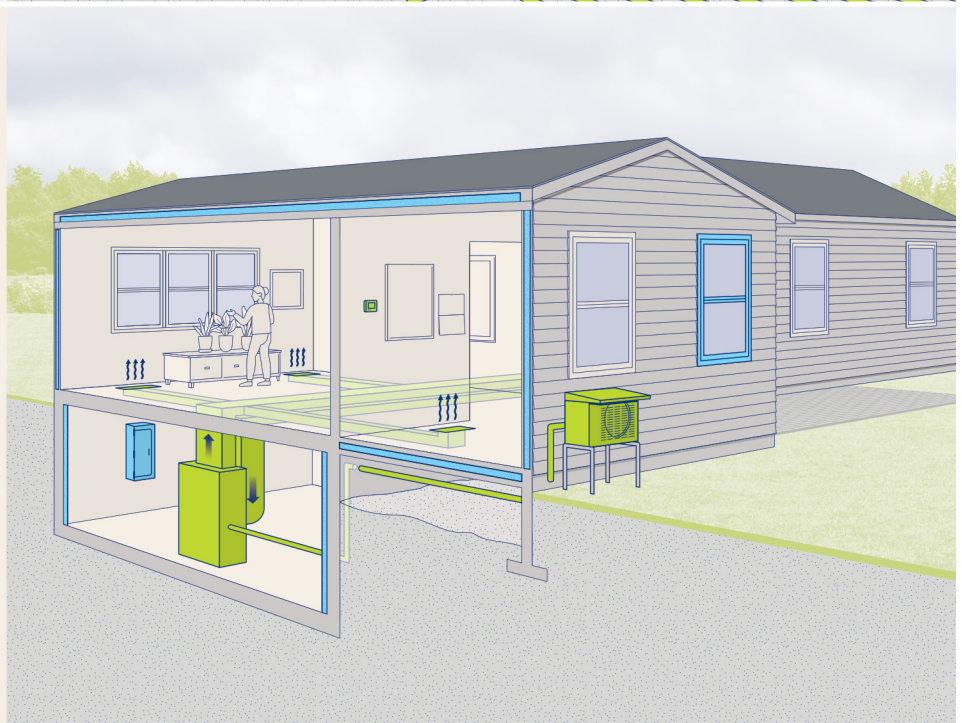
Ground source systems typically take longer and cost more to install.



Air source heat pumps extract heating or cooling from outdoor air. Technology designed for cold climates can efficiently heat homes all winter across New York State.

Air source systems are less costly to install and more versatile, but not as efficient as ground source heat pumps.

Outdoor units – similar to AC condensers – are necessary with air source heat pumps.



Why Heat Pumps?

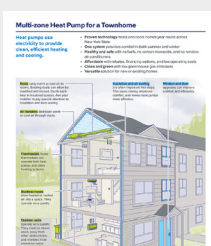
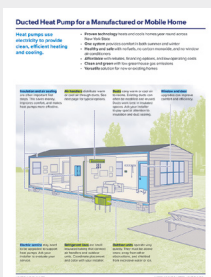
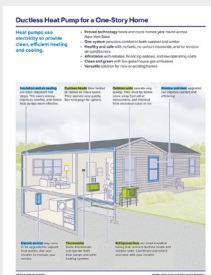
Heat pumps are **safer** and more **efficient**, **sustainable**, and **versatile**. Why?

- Heat pumps cost less to operate than oil, propane, or electric baseboard heating systems.
- Heat pumps are a safer option compared to gas or liquid fuels. There is no chimney, gas line, oil tank, or burning of fuels and no risk of generating carbon monoxide.
- Heat pumps can provide all your heating and cooling needs. The same unit cools your house in the summer and provides heat in the winter.
- Heat pumps generate no greenhouse gas emissions when your electricity comes from clean sources. Heat pumps can also be powered by solar at your home.
- With current technology, heat pumps are efficient in all seasons and can provide most (if not ALL) of the heating needs in homes across New York State.

Consider Heat Pumps When:

- You want to save money compared to an oil, propane, or electric baseboard heating system
- You want to add air conditioning or replace an existing AC unit
- Your heating system is old and will soon need replacement
- You are planning a major renovation or building a new home
- You want to address comfort problems in certain areas of your home
- You need to provide heating and cooling to an addition
- You want to improve health and safety for your family
- You want to reduce your carbon footprint

Using the Heat Pump Planner



What kind of home do you have?

The guide shows a variety of systems in several types of homes.

Do you have forced-air heating?

If your home currently has ducts for heating or cooling, these can often be reused for ducted heat pump systems.

No ducts? No problem.

There are many ductless options for heat pumps.

Whole home solution? Heat pumps can efficiently heat and cool entire homes all across the State, but they can also be installed in additions or spaces with comfort problems.

Know the right questions to ask.

Each system includes key questions for your heat pump installer. Work with installers to review options for your home type, price point, and other goals.

Insulate the home. Adding insulation and sealing air leaks will improve comfort, lower heating and cooling bills, and reduce the size (and cost) of the heat pumps needed. See resources for making your home more efficient at www.nyserda.ny.gov/Residents-and-Homeowners/Seal-and-Insulate-Your-Home.

Understand costs, financing, and incentives. Heat pumps are less costly than oil, propane, or electric baseboards. Check with NYSEDA or your electric company for incentives and financing options.



NYS Clean Heat