

Public Webinar

Winter Heating Resources for Maine People

October 2, 2026, 11am – 12pm



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources



MaineHousing
MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Agenda

- **DOER overview and consumer resources** (15 min)
- **Efficiency Maine programs and incentives** (10 min)
- **MaineHousing energy assistance programs** (10 min)
- **Audience Q&A** (20 min)
- **Wrap up**



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Energy Resources

Maine Department of Energy Resources (DOER)

Maine's cabinet-level energy department that leads energy policy, planning, and development for the State.

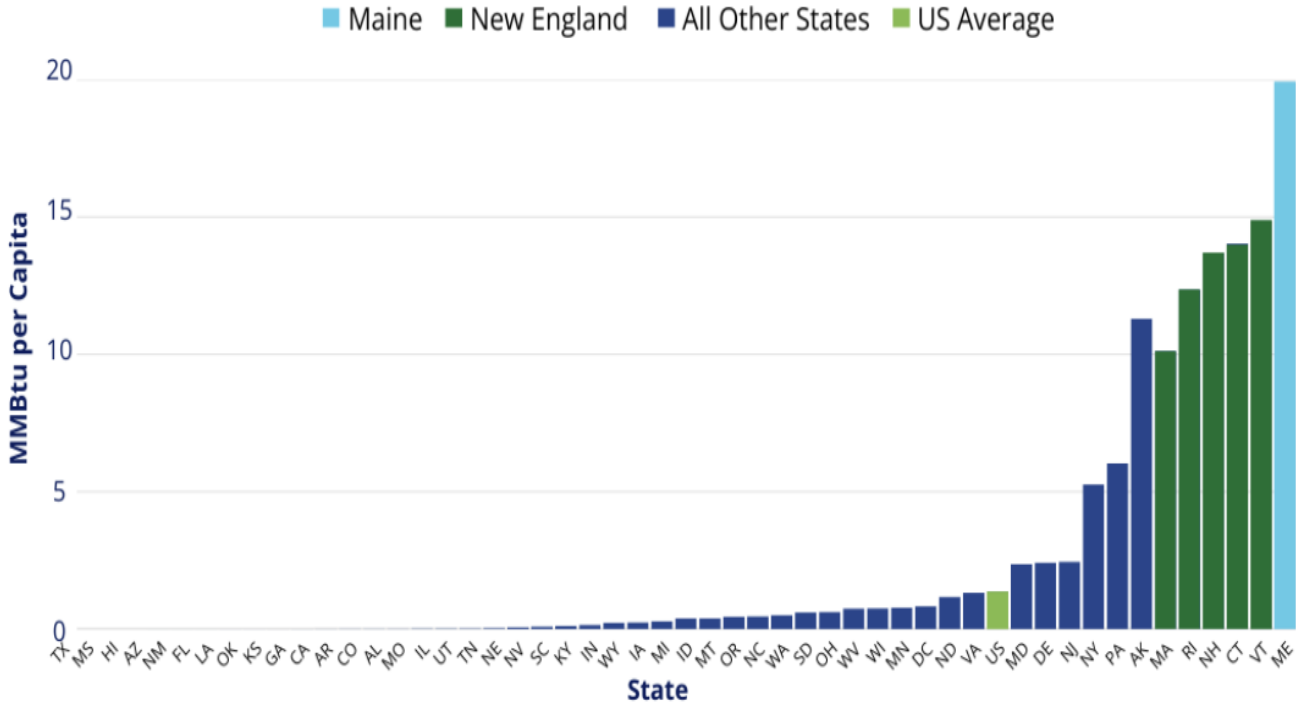
maine.gov/energy



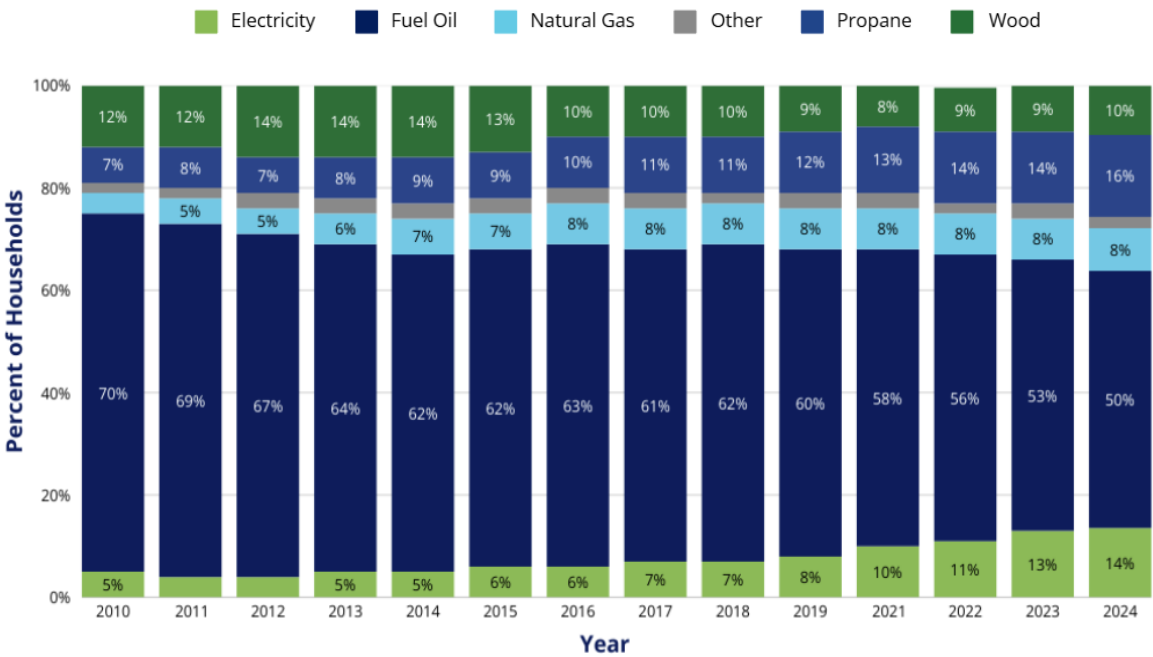
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Maine's Energy Landscape: Heating Oil Reliance

Fuel Oil Consumed by the Residential Sector, by state (2023)



Share of Energy Sources Consumed for Residential Heating, Maine

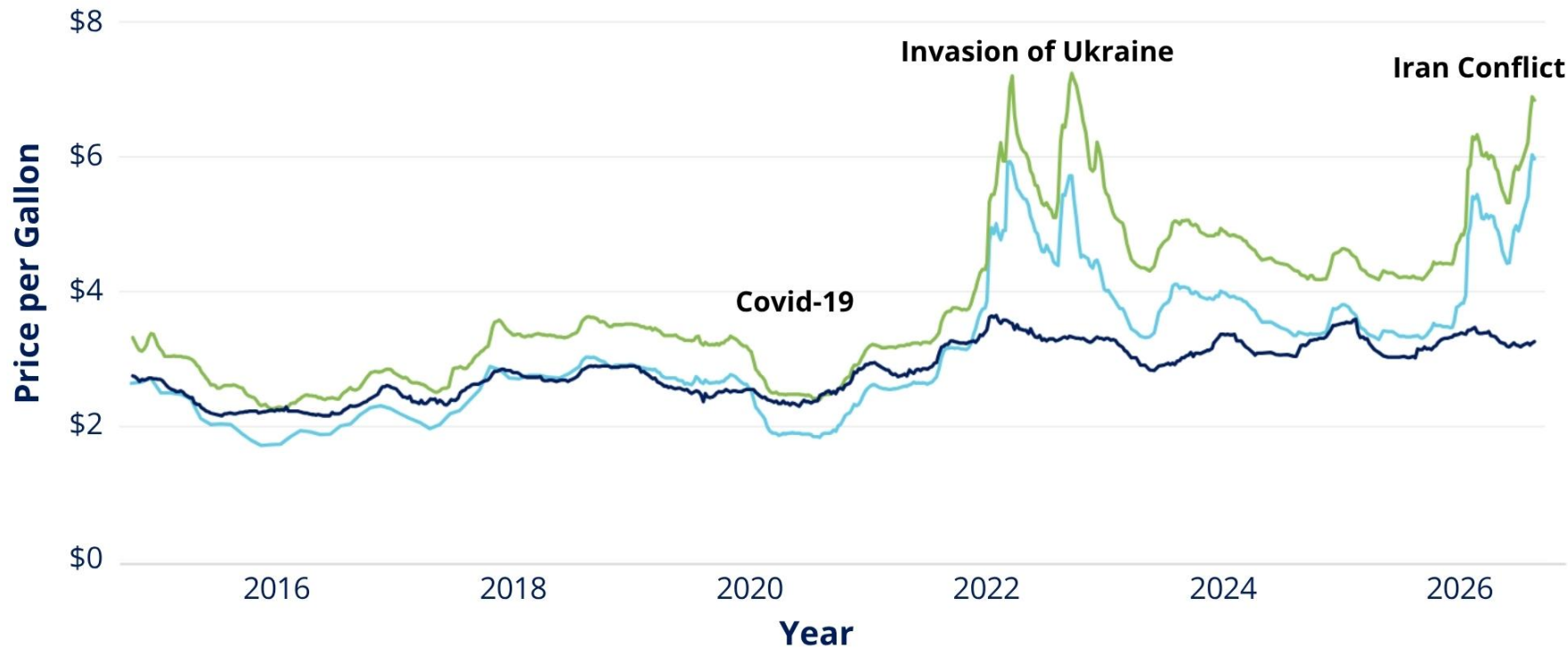


Maine's Energy Landscape: Heating Fuel Prices

Maine Historical Heating Fuel Prices
Source: DOER Heating Fuel Prices Webpage

Updated October 1, 2026

■ Heating Oil ■ Kerosene ■ Propane



On September 21, heating fuel prices reached an **all time high** of \$6.02/gallon, an 81% increase from a year ago, which will cost households approximately \$740 more per fill up.

DOER is encouraging Maine people to **plan ahead**, contact your fuel provider, get on contractors' schedules, and **explore available heating assistance and energy efficiency programs**.

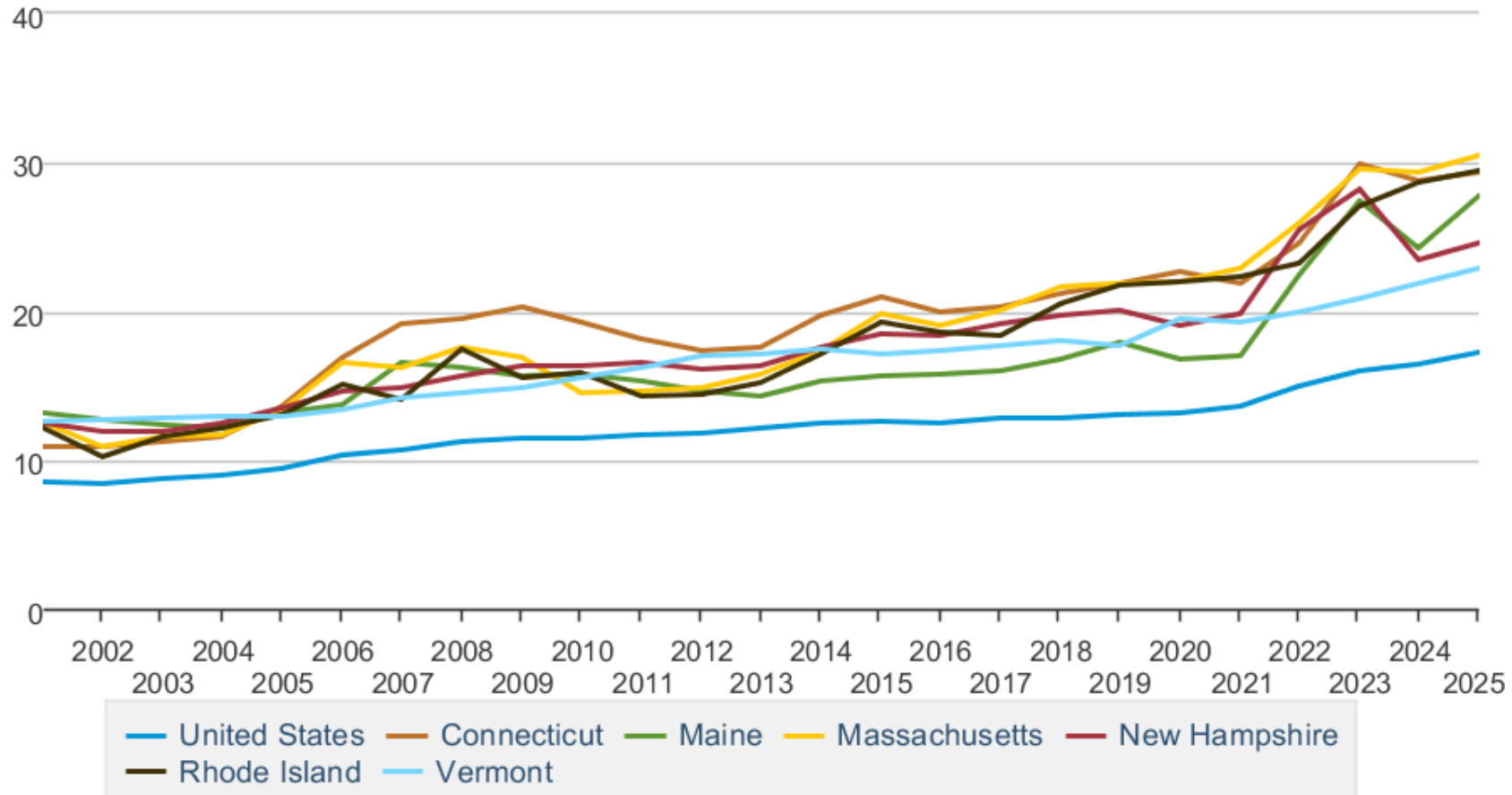


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Maine's Energy Landscape: Electricity Prices

Average retail price of electricity, annual

cents per kilowatthour



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration



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Consumer Resources



Maine Energy Burden

Energy burden is the proportion of a household's income that is spent on energy costs.

Average energy burden in Maine is 4%.

Households using propane, kerosene, or heating oil experience the highest energy burdens.

60% State Median Income

County	Total Energy Burden	Electric	Bottled Gas (Propane)	Fuel Oil
Androscoggin	14%	9%	19%	16%
Aroostook	14%	8%	20%	15%
Cumberland	13%	8%	17%	16%
Franklin	13%	8%	14%	15%
Hancock	14%	7%	17%	16%
Kennebec	14%	10%	21%	15%
Knox	15%	9%	18%	16%
Lincoln	14%	8%	18%	15%
Oxford	14%	9%	16%	15%
Penobscot	13%	7%	12%	16%
Piscataquis	15%	9%	17%	16%
Sagadahoc	16%	8%	18%	18%
Somerset	15%	10%	16%	15%
Waldo	14%	8%	20%	15%
Washington	17%	9%	23%	17%
York	14%	9%	17%	15%
Maine	14%	8%	17%	15%

All Income

County	Total Energy Burden	Electric	Bottled Gas (Propane)	Fuel Oil
Androscoggin	5%	3%	4%	5%
Aroostook	6%	4%	5%	6%
Cumberland	3%	2%	3%	4%
Franklin	5%	5%	4%	5%
Hancock	4%	4%	4%	5%
Kennebec	5%	4%	3%	5%
Knox	4%	4%	4%	5%
Lincoln	4%	3%	4%	5%
Oxford	5%	5%	5%	6%
Penobscot	5%	4%	4%	5%
Piscataquis	6%	5%	5%	6%
Sagadahoc	4%	4%	4%	5%
Somerset	5%	5%	5%	6%
Waldo	5%	4%	5%	5%
Washington	6%	4%	5%	6%
York	4%	3%	4%	4%
Maine	4%	3%	4%	5%

Data Source: DOE Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool



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Heating Fuel Prices

Weekly Heating Fuel Prices

DOER conducts a survey of heating fuel prices obtained from delivered fuel retailers statewide. This survey provides the current Maine cash prices, in dollars, rounded to the nearest penny. Prices are updated each week during the heating season.

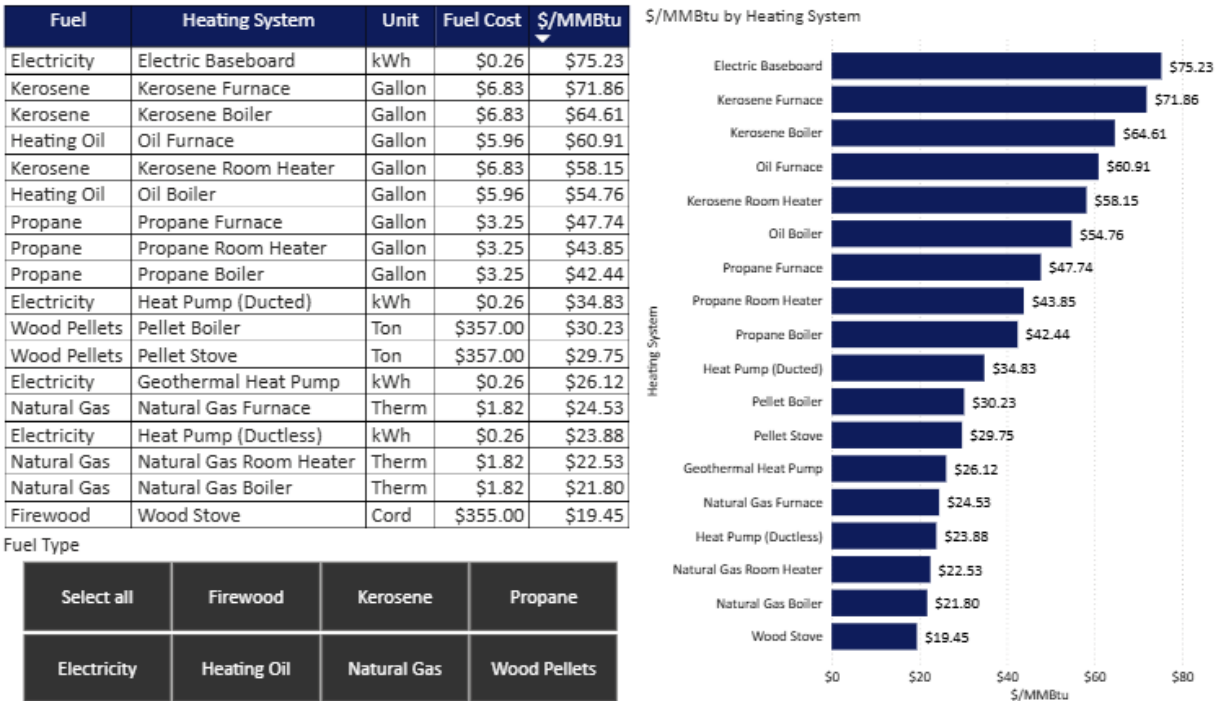
Maine Retail Heating Fuel Prices as of September 28, 2026

Fuel Type	Statewide	Southwest / West-Central	Southeast / Greater Portland	Central	East / Downeast	Northern
Heating Oil - Average	\$5.96	\$5.91	\$5.89	\$6.03	\$6.00	\$5.97
Heating Oil - High	\$6.30	\$6.10	\$6.20	\$6.24	\$6.30	\$6.20
Heating Oil - Low	\$5.00	\$5.60	\$5.69	\$5.69	\$5.00	\$5.85
Kerosene	\$6.83	\$6.88	\$6.88	\$6.88	\$6.78	\$6.72
Propane	\$3.25	\$3.45	\$3.63	\$3.16	\$3.17	\$2.83

www.maine.gov/energy/heating-fuel-prices

Average Heating Cost by Fuel Type and System

Below is a dashboard that compares the statewide average cost in dollars per million Btu (MMBtu) of various heating fuels when considering heating system efficiencies.



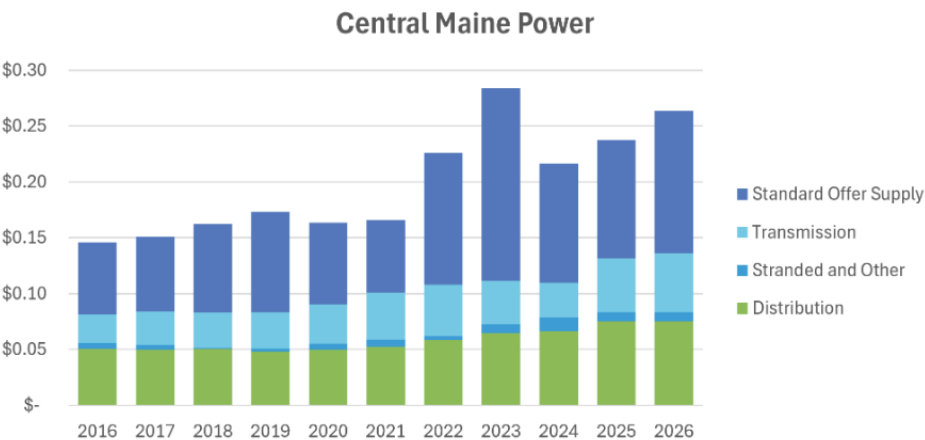
Electricity Prices

Electricity bills include several components, and the rates for these components can change throughout the year based on the cost of energy supply and/or regulatory changes.

DOER maintains an electricity prices page that explains each part of a residential electricity bill, provides the latest electricity prices for Maine consumers, outlines how and when rates are set, and answers common questions about recent electricity price trends.

Residential electricity prices by component

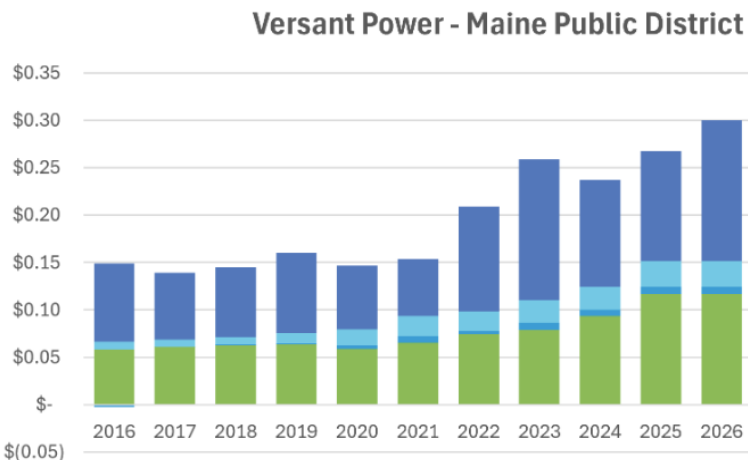
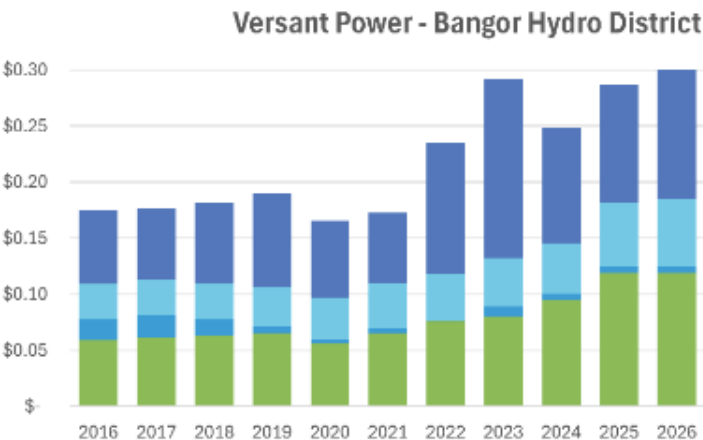
Volumetric rate components. Maine Public Utilities Commission and electric utilities.



www.maine.gov/energy/electricity-prices

Electricity Prices by Bill Component as of July 1, 2026 (Residential)

Utility Name	Fixed Charge (\$)	Standard Offer Supply (\$/kWh)	Distribution (\$/kWh)	Transmission (\$/kWh)	Stranded, Conservation, and Other Costs (\$/kWh)	Average Monthly Residential Bill (550 kWh)
Central Maine Power	\$27.37 (includes first 50 kWh)	\$0.13	\$0.06	\$0.05	\$0.00	\$157.13
Versant Power - Bangor Hydro District	\$22.41 (includes first 100 kWh)	\$0.13	\$0.12	\$0.06	\$0.00	\$177.81
Versant Power - Maine Public District	\$22.76 (includes first 100 kWh)	\$0.15	\$0.11	\$0.03	\$0.00	\$173.53



Updated Winter Heating Guide

- Annual guide to help Maine people save money, stay warm, and find heating assistance if needed during winter
- Multi-agency collaboration
 - DOER
 - MaineHousing
 - Efficiency Maine
 - Office of the Public Advocate
 - Public Utilities Commission
- Resources and programs available (e.g., financial assistance, CAAs, energy efficiency, etc.)
- Available to download at **maine.gov/energy**
- Printer-friendly contact sheet available for distribution at libraries, community centers etc.

www.maine.gov/energy/winter-heating-resources

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Energy Resources**

2026-2027
Heating Season

Winter Heating Guide

Resources for Maine people to save money, stay warm, and access energy assistance

The [Maine Department of Energy Resources](#) (DOER) is the cabinet-level agency responsible for leading the state's energy policy, planning, programs, and development. DOER tracks [delivered fuel prices weekly](#) during the heating season and updates this Winter Heating Guide each year to share information, tips, and resources with Maine people to help them save money and stay warm all winter.

Scan to find this sheet online:


STAY INFORMED AND SAVE MONEY

Track Heating Fuel Prices

DOER maintains a [heating fuel prices webpage](#) to help consumers make informed energy decisions. The page features an interactive dashboard that compares the operating costs of different heating systems and fuels. Prices are updated each week during the heating season.

Know Your Rights

Maine law protects consumers when it comes to winter heating fuel delivery. Specifically, oil dealers cannot refuse deliveries during the heating season for customers who owe them money, provided certain conditions are met. For details, review the Office of the Maine Attorney General's [Consumer Home Heating Rights](#).

Review Electricity Rates

View Maine electricity rates on the [DOER website](#). Higher-usage households may qualify for alternative rates. Contact your utility to inquire about available options. Many customers may also save by switching to time-of-use rates. The Central Maine Power (CMP) [online energy manager tool](#) can help you understand specific alternative rates and estimated savings based on historical usage.

Stay Safe During Emergencies

During a power outage, or when fuel such as propane or heating oil is in short supply, people may turn to alternative heating sources, such as generators and space heaters. Learn more about alternative heat source safety by visiting the [Maine Emergency Management Agency webpage](#).

Emergency Fuel Assistance

If you are very low on fuel and cannot afford to fill your tank, you may qualify for an emergency delivery. Emergency funds are available at non-profits, churches, municipalities, and other organizations. **Call 211** or contact your local **Community Action Agency** for more information.

1



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Affordability Programs



DOER coordinates with Efficiency Maine and MaineHousing to lower energy costs for Maine consumers through energy efficiency and weatherization programs.

In recent years, we’ve secured federal funding to launch:

- **Home energy rebates (\$36M)** – offers rebates for heat pump installations in multifamily affordable housing
- **Heat pump accelerator (\$43M)** – provides rebates for high-efficiency heat pump water heaters and funding for pilots and community projects that expand access to heat pump adoption.

Heat pump goal: 275,000 by 2027

Weatherization goal: 35,000 homes by 2030

Progress to date:

Fiscal Year	Heat Pumps Installed	Fiscal Year	Heat Pump Water Heaters Installed	Fiscal Year	Dwellings Weatherized
2019	11,420	2019	5,988	2019	2,624
2020	12,870	2020	8,542	2020	1,581
2021	27,848	2021	10,427	2021	1,778
2022	29,968	2022	9,368	2022	2,160
2023	34,041	2023	9,504	2023	3,352
2024	28,366	2024	10,581	2024	3,237
2025	37,078	2025	10,474	2025	3,396
2026	26,244	2026	8,446	2026	3,585
Total	207,836	Total	73,330	Total	21,713





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Thank You

ross.anthony@maine.gov

www.maine.gov/energy

**Sign up for the
DOER email
newsletter**





Residential Offerings

Efficiency Maine Introduction

- Administers statewide programs to promote energy efficiency, beneficial electrification, & demand management
- Provides incentives, financing, tech support, educational materials, and a database of independent vendors & installers
- Funded by electric ratepayers, Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, federal grants, and other sources
- An independent, quasi-state agency, directed by the Board of Trustees with oversight from the Public Utilities Commission
- Operates under a 3-year, strategic plan to advance statutory targets and objectives (e.g., lowering energy costs, reducing peak demand on the grid, reducing pollution)

Heat Pump Water Heater Incentives



- After \$1,200 instant discount:
 - \$489 at Home Depot
 - \$499 at Granite Group
 - \$549 at Lowe's
- Anyone can install (plumber or DIY)

Net prices shown as of 8/21/26 – subject to change.



Heat Pumps and Insulation

Heat Pump Benefits



1. Save money
2. Increase year-round comfort
 - Heat
 - Air conditioning
 - Dehumidification
 - Air filtration
 - Indoor air circulation
3. Run on Maine's increasingly renewable electricity*
4. No combustion fumes
5. No fuel tank or fuel leaks
6. No need to monitor fuel level
7. No heavy, inefficient window air conditioners

* According to the Energy Information Administration, 57% of Maine's 2024 in-state net generation was renewable.

Heat Pump Incentives (\$500 Bonus)

Income Bracket	Efficiency Maine Rebate
Low Income (MaineCare, TANF, SNAP, HEAP)	\$9,000 (\$3,000 per outdoor unit)
Moderate Income (AGI <\$70k/yr single, \$100k/yr jointly)	\$6,000 (\$2,000 per outdoor unit)
Any Income	\$3,000 (\$1,000 per outdoor unit)

Insulation Incentives

INSULATION REBATES AND ZONES	Low Income	Moderate Income	Any Income
Small Attic, Wall, and/or Basement 250 – 499 square feet insulated in each zone completed*	\$2,000 per zone*	\$1,500 per zone*	\$1,000 per zone*
Large Attic, Wall, and/or Basement At least 500 square feet insulated in each zone completed*	\$4,000 per zone*	\$3,000 per zone*	\$2,000 per zone*
Mobile Home Underbelly At least 500 square feet insulated	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$3,000

Income Eligibility at efficiencymaine.com

Income-Based Eligibility Verification

Efficiency Maine offers **low-cost** energy upgrades and enhanced electric vehicle rebates for eligible low- or moderate-income Mainers. These rebates are higher than the standard incentives, with the highest amounts for those who qualify as low-income. Efficiency Maine also offers **home energy loans** to eligible homeowners.

Use the online form below for the fastest eligibility verification.

Choose one eligibility option from the six listed below that best represents your situation.

Qualified low-income households may be eligible for the highest rebates for electric vehicles (EVs), heat pumps, and insulation.

Select the program that at least one member of the household currently participates in.

- ☐ **1** - Home Energy Assistance Program (**HEAP**) - I currently receive fuel-assistance benefits from MaineHousing
- ☐ **2** - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (**SNAP**) for food assistance
- ☐ **3** - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (**TANF**) for cash assistance
- ☐ **4** - Income-based **MaineCare** for medical insurance coverage
- ☐ **5** - Manufactured (Mobile) Home Initiative participants with a **county specific Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)**

Qualified moderate-income households may be eligible for elevated rebates based on federal Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).

Moderate Income Choice

- ☐ **6** - **AGI up to \$70,000** for an individual filing as single or head of household, or **\$100,000** if married filing jointly, married filing separately (both returns required), or individual filing as a qualifying surviving spouse.

Efficiency Maine Registered Installers

Find a Residential Registered Vendor

Use this tool to find a residential energy efficiency contractor near you. Efficiency Maine recommends getting estimates from at least three contractors.

[CLICK HERE FOR QUESTIONS TO ASK A REGISTERED VENDOR](#)

Services:

Select

ZIP Code:

Distance:

25 Miles

Sort by:

Number Of Rebates*

SEARCH

**Use our search
feature to find a
vendor near you.**

- Required for heat pump rebates
- Find an independent, certified, and insured installer in your area
- Search by service offered
- Suggested questions to ask when selecting an installer

How To Get Heat Pump Incentives



1. Verify income eligibility for enhanced rebates (if applicable)
2. Hire Residential Registered Vendor
3. Submit claim form (homeowner or installer)
4. Receive check in mail (homeowner or installer)



Other Offerings

#	Upgrade	Rebate
1	Geothermal heat pump	1/3 up to \$3,000
2	Electric battery storage	Up to \$500/year
4	Pellet/wood boiler/furnace	1/3 up to \$6,000
9	Clothes washer	\$50

Efficiency Maine Green Bank

Loans are available to help homeowners or small businesses pay for qualifying energy equipment and upgrades.

Visit our webpage for up-to-date loan and finance offerings.



- Online applications
- Application support available 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays.

Get Started
efficiencymaine.com
866-376-2463

Home Energy Assistance Program



Sarah Johnson
Manager of Home Energy
Assistance Programs



MaineHousing
MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Home Energy Assistance Program HEAP



Income based assistance program to help a household offset a portion of their home energy cost



One-time annual benefit



Eligibility for HEAP allows access to other programs



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How can I apply?



ONLINE:
[MAINEHOUSING.ORG](https://mainehousing.org)

BY PHONE OR IN PERSON:
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL
COMMUNITY ACTION
AGENCY



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What do I need to provide?



Proof of citizenship for all household members



Unexpired Photo ID



Social Security cards for all household members



Verification of Income



Copies Utility and Energy Bills



Permission to Share form signed by all adults



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How long does it take to get approved?



The usual timeframe is 30 – 60 days from the date you apply – but it depends on how quickly you provide required documents.



Online Applications: be sure to check your email and voicemails regarding outstanding documents.



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How will I get the assistance?



Payments are made to the vendor who supplies your fuel



Direct check for certain fuel types



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When will I get the benefit?

Payments are typically made
within 7 days of approval –
once MaineHousing receives
the funding



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Why should I apply for HEAP?

Eligibility for other programs
requires an approved HEAP
application.



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Energy Crisis Intervention Program ECIP



For households that are in danger of losing the ability to heat their home



ECIP assistance must completely remedy the crisis



One time benefit which is the greater of \$500 or 100 gallons of deliverable fuel.



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How do I apply for ECIP?



By phone or in person:
Contact your local Community Action
Agency



Online to start the application process:
but you must communicate with your CAA
about your emergency once your
application is complete



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What do I need to provide for ECIP?



If you have already received HEAP – nothing!



Otherwise, all the required documents for a HEAP application



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Low Income Assistance Program



LIAP



Assistance program for HEAP eligible households to offset electricity costs by putting a monthly credit on electricity account

Utility providers use HEAP approval to determine eligibility

Eligibility allows access to AMP – Arrearage Management Programs



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Central Heating Improvement Program CHIP



Heating system repair
and replacement
services



Priority is given to
households that have
no heat

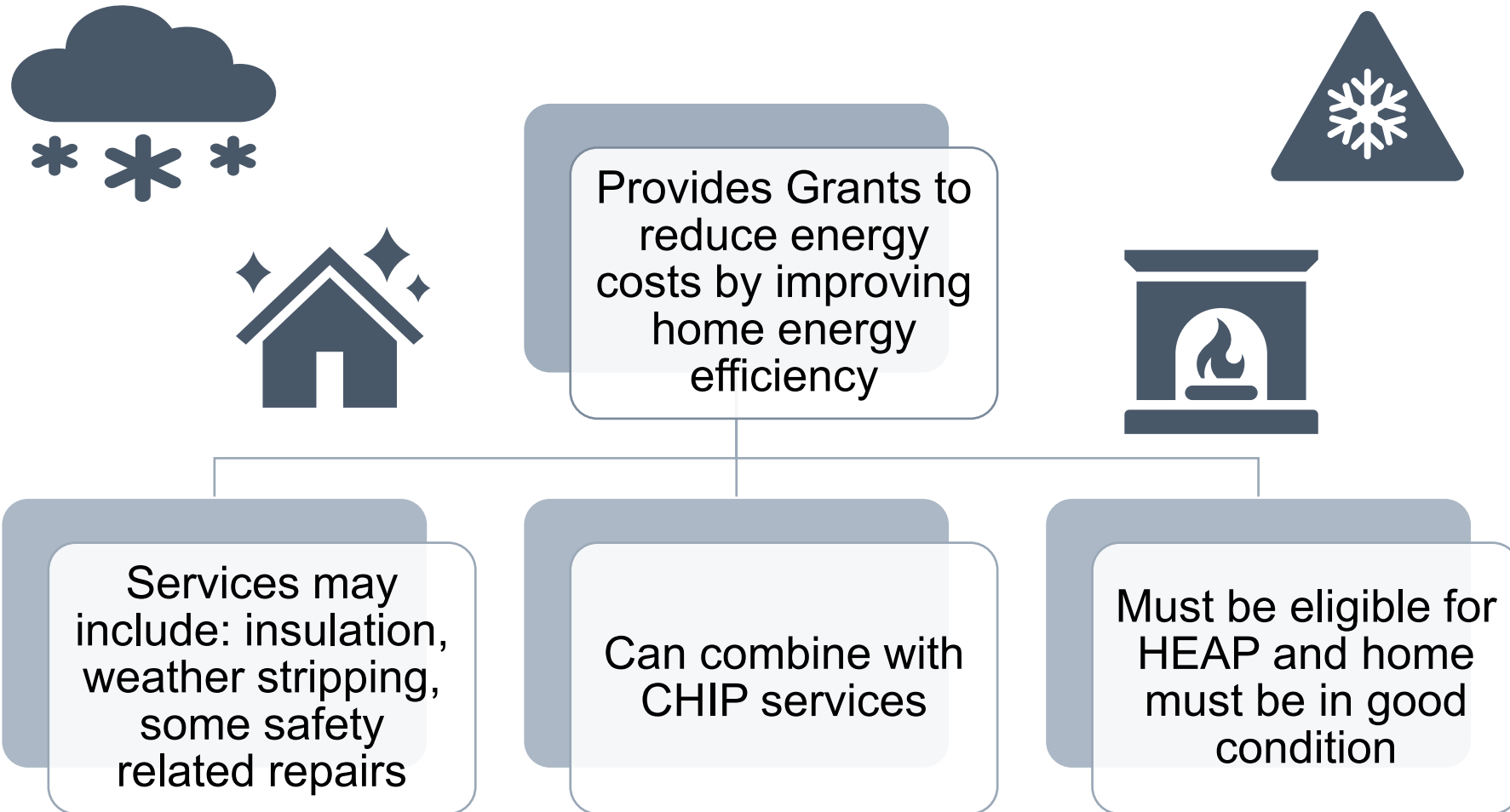


Must be eligible for
HEAP and home is in
good condition



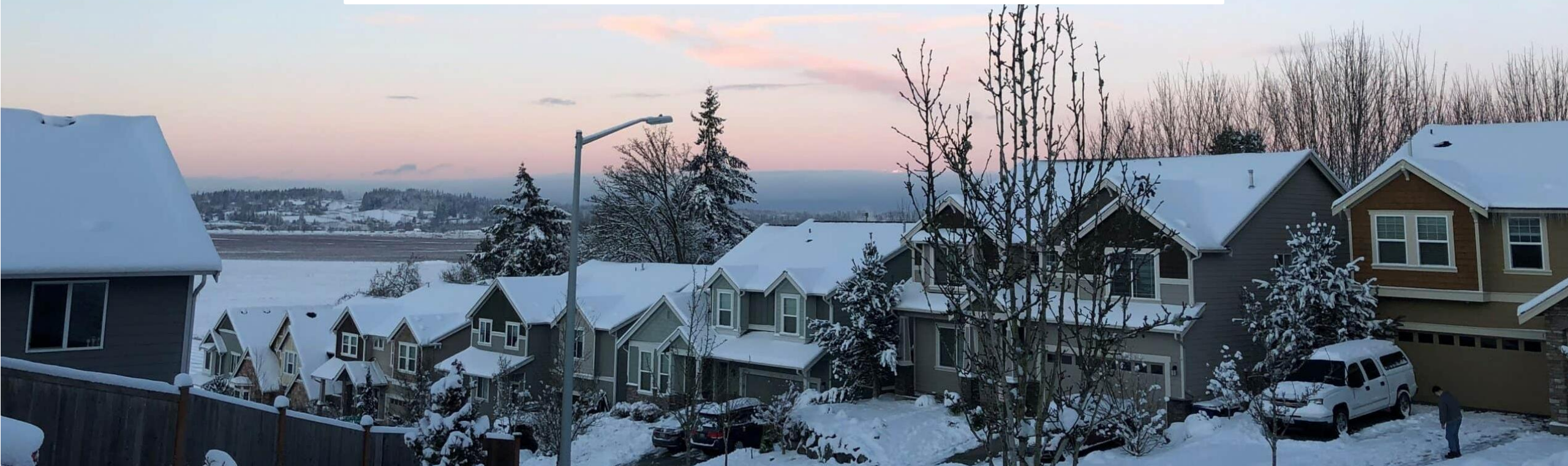
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Weatherization



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Audience Q&A



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