



Celebrating 1 Million ENERGY STAR Homes

1 Million ENERGY STAR® Homes Campaign Fact Sheet

Campaign Overview

In November 2009, the ENERGY STAR for New Homes program will celebrate 1 million ENERGY STAR qualified homes built in the United States. Thanks to the efforts of the thousands of participating builders, Americans across the country are enjoying superior performance, greater comfort, and energy savings of ENERGY STAR qualified homes. To celebrate, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is inviting homeowners to participate by sharing inspirational stories about their ENERGY STAR qualified home experience and encouraging builders, rater, and utility partners to host their own celebration events and talk to local media about this important milestone and their involvement.

About ENERGY STAR Qualified Homes

ENERGY STAR qualified new homes are independently verified to meet strict guidelines for energy efficiency set by EPA. These homes save owners money on their utility bills, provide a more comfortable living environment with better indoor air quality, and help protect the environment. ENERGY STAR qualified new homes are at least 15% more energy efficient than homes built to the 2004 International Residential Code (IRC), and include additional energy-saving features that typically make them 20–30% more efficient than standard homes.

Key Campaign Messages

- The passing of the one million home mark is an important milestone for ENERGY STAR, its partners, American consumers, and the environment.
- Buying a new home today is more complex than ever—to make sure a home is truly energy-efficient, homebuyers can simply look for the government-backed ENERGY STAR label.
- ENERGY STAR is a program with a proven track record and demonstrated success in helping consumers save money. In 2008 alone, American families living in ENERGY STAR homes locked in annual utility bill savings of more than \$250 million and saved over 1.5 billion kWh of electricity and 155 million therms of natural gas, while reducing the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of nearly 350,000 cars annually.
- Despite the recent downturn in the housing market, both home builders and home buyers are continuing to invest in high performing homes that save home buyers money on their utility bills, while helping to protect the environment.
- ENERGY STAR qualified homes are available in every state. Nearly 17 percent of all single-family homes built nationally in 2008 earned EPA's ENERGY STAR label, up from 12 percent in 2007. Market share for ENERGY STAR qualified homes is 20 percent or greater in 15 states.
- The construction of ENERGY STAR homes is an important part of the new clean energy economy. Today, there are more than 6,500 builders across the nation building homes that earn the ENERGY STAR label.
- The energy-efficient features of an ENERGY STAR qualified home can help homeowners save about \$200 to \$400 per year on their utility bills, adding up to thousands of dollars over the years they live in the home.
- For home buyers looking to “go green,” an energy-efficient home is a great place to start.

Homes that earn EPA's ENERGY STAR meet strict guidelines for energy efficiency. They offer greater comfort, lower utility bills, and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming. Learn more at energystar.gov.

