

ELECTRIFY YOUR BUILDING

A Guide for Renters, Homeowners, & Landlords



Benefits of Electrification

Financial savings

Potentially lower energy bills

Predictable and controllable energy costs and usage

Independence from oil and gas price volatility

Improved indoor air quality and respiratory health

Pollution from oil- and gas-powered appliances is linked to health problems [1]

Decreased pollution and greenhouse gas emissions

Going electric alone can reduce your building's emissions by 40% [2]

Reduced energy demand

Solar + storage become easier to implement and cover more of your needs

Safer and more reliable

Reduces risk of CO leaks, service calls, maintenance costs

Increased property value

Attractive to buyers and renters, especially millennials and Gen Z

Reduced tenant turnover



How to Go Electric

While the exact steps of electrification are unique to each building, here's an outline of what it might involve:

- **Home Energy Assessment**
Find out what your baseline is and get efficiency and weatherization upgrades. These upgrades are the crucial first step to ensure you aren't wasting energy (and money) due to leaks.
- **Heat pump heating/cooling system**
- **Heat pump water heater**
- **Induction stove**
- **Electric vehicle plugs**
- **Rooftop solar + storage**
Once everything is powered by electricity, why not generate it on your own roof and save even more on your electric bill!

Note to renters:



Your landlord is responsible for funding and making these upgrades, but you and your fellow tenants can help nudge them in the right direction (electrification is good for them too)! There are many resources available to help with this, so check out our quiz linked on the back to find out where to start.

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Misconceptions

Let's debunk some common myths about electrification:

"It's too expensive"

There's an upfront cost to property owners, but there are potential long-term savings on energy bills. There are also financial programs and incentives to help landlords and homeowners go electric -- sometimes even at no cost!

"Heat pumps won't work in the cold"

Cold climate heat pumps can work well in temperatures as low as -20 F [3]

"It won't reduce my building's emissions"

Electrification alone dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and it's a necessary step for the renewable energy transition. CT utility electricity supply will be 91% carbon free in 2025, and CT has committed to a carbon-free electrical grid by 2040!

"Cooking is better with a gas stove"

Gas stove emissions are toxic to inhale, and induction cooktops are safer and have more precise temperature control.

Case Studies

First-time Homeowner - Crystal B.

Through the Home Energy Solutions - Income Eligible program, Crystal was able to upgrade her home's HVAC system without paying anything out-of-pocket. The comprehensive incentives covered the cost of a new electric heat pump system. She then installed rooftop solar panels that generate all the power needed to run her house. **Her electric bill has dropped from \$400 to \$9.**

Source: NHS of New Haven, I Heart My Home CT

Apartment Complex - Winthrop Square, New London

The building owners upgraded the old, inefficient gas boiler units and made other upgrades including LED lighting and air sealing. Their initial investment was offset by \$580,000 in incentives. **The upgrades save the property owners about \$60,000 per year and are predicted to save more than \$970,000 over the next 13 years.**

Source: Energize CT, Multifamily Case Study

References:

1. Effects of Residential Gas Appliances on Indoor and Outdoor Air Quality and Public Health in California, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health - Department of Environmental Health Sciences, 2020
2. Electrification & Decarbonization: Exploring U.S. Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Scenarios with Widespread Electrification and Power Sector Decarbonization, Steinberg et al., NREL, 2017
3. <https://www.blocpower.io/posts/cold-climate-heat-pumps>

Get Started!

Take our 3-question quiz to find incentives & programs to help you go electric!



Learn more!

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