



TNMP High-Performance Homes Program Fall Newsletter

Introduction letter from Stefani Case, the Texas-New Mexico Power Program Manager

2019 TNMP High-Performance Homes Program Participants,

Thank you for another great year! We are very pleased to have so many energy efficient homes in the program database! In this newsletter, we are featuring the **ENERGY STAR Ways to Save Tips**. Below is a sneak peek at some of the tips you will find when you visit TNMPEfficiency.com and tips are updated on a regular basis.

Work with your HERS Rater to ensure your homes are submitted by **November 30, 2019**. Talk to your Rater to complete performance testing and submit your homes to the database.

Congratulations to the 2019 TNMP High-Performance Homes Program award winning builders! Please join us at the End-of-Year Awards Luncheon and 2020 Kick-off meeting to be held **December 12**, please scroll down for venue details and how to RSVP.

In this issue of the newsletter:

- ENERGY STAR Ways to Save Tips
- RESNET Tools for Builders

- Earning Energy Rating Index Points for Proper HVAC Design & Installation
- End-of-Year Awards Luncheon
- Energy Efficiency Learning Center - Training of the Month
- In the News - How Low Can you Go, an Inside Look into HERS Scores

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ENERGY STAR Ways to Save¹

Check out TNMPEfficiency.com and click [ENERGY STAR Ways to Save Tips²](#).



WAYS TO SAVE TIPS

Choose an ENERGY STAR certified clothes washer

The average American family washes about 300 loads of laundry each year. If you're [purchasing a new clothes washer](#) consider one that's earned the ENERGY STAR. Certified models feature sophisticated wash systems that can help you reduce related energy and water costs. Clothes washers that have earned the ENERGY STAR use 25 percent less energy AND 45 percent less water.

Choose ENERGY STAR certified light fixtures

Replacing five fixtures in your home with [ENERGY STAR certified models](#) could save you \$40 a year in utility bills. If every U.S. household did it, we would save nearly \$5 billion each year in energy costs and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from nearly 6 million cars.

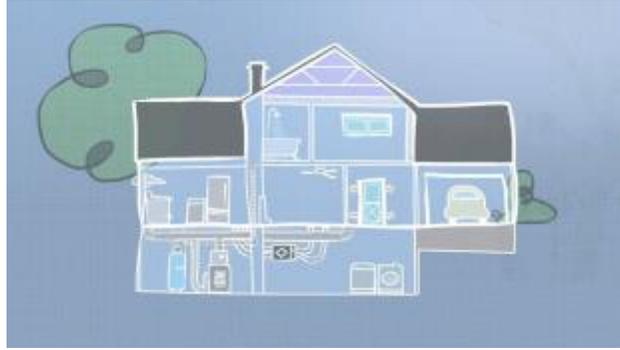
RESNET Tools for Builders



<https://youtu.be/ifwnP7MatkU>

¹<http://southtxsaves.com/energy-saving-tips-and-ideas>

²http://www.tnmpEfficiency.com/smartPage_newhomes.html?smartP=NHOverview



<https://youtu.be/YjX8RKuKy3s>

Earning Energy Rating Index Points for Proper HVAC Design & Installation



EPA is working with RESNET & ACCA on a new standard that will reward proper HVAC design and installation with energy rating index points. This important initiative will make it easier and more valuable to meet HVAC-related requirements in the ENERGY STAR certified homes program.

Currently, only the rated efficiency of HVAC equipment (e.g., SEER) is used to determine the energy rating index of a home. This is true despite ample evidence that the performance of a system is also heavily dependent on its design and installation. **Once finalized, the updated standards will allow partners to earn points for many of the tasks already required by the ENERGY STAR Certified Homes Program.** Properly designed and installed HVAC systems will be rewarded for all ratings, not just for ENERGY STAR certified homes. In addition, this will create a new optional path in the ENERGY STAR program to satisfy the HVAC requirements without mandatory use of a credentialed contractor.

How will the standard be structured?

While still in development, the goal is to follow the grading model used for insulation quality-installation:

- **Grade III:** No assessment of the HVAC system is done. No penalty is imposed, but no credit is earned.
- **Grade II:** The Rater reviews key design parameters and assesses key installation parameters in the field. The results indicate that the system is acceptable. Partial credit is earned.
- **Grade I:** The Rater duplicates the tasks for Grade II, but the results indicate that the system is properly designed and installed. Full credit is earned.

What is the timeline for including this in the RESNET standard and software?

- The draft standard has concluded its 1st comment period and the 2nd will occur in Oct. / Nov.
- Once finalized, the standard will be incorporated into software, training, QA, and reporting procedures. This will occur through Q2 2020.
- Once complete, implementation can begin, likely in Q2 2020.

Questions? Write to energystarhomes@energystar.gov

Don't miss out on Incentives with ENERGY STAR! It is easy to participate. Ask your Rater about ENERGY STAR.

87% of consumers recognize the ENERGY STAR logo and associate it with energy-efficiency. Are you leveraging the marketing and building science benefits of being an ENERGY STAR builder? Become an ENERGY STAR Builder Partner today and join the thousands of builders across the US! Watch the video and click here³ to learn more.



<https://youtu.be/x5U1H2Jk10k>

³https://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=bldrs_lenders_raters.nh_v4_benefits_builders

Texas Energy Efficiency Learning Center



TRAINING OF THE MONTH: Ventilation for ENERGY STAR New Homes⁴

As a participating contractor in TNMP High-Performance Homes Program, you have free access to the Energy Efficiency Learning Center (EELC). The EELC is an online distance-learning portal where contractors can login to take trainings on Sales and Marketing, Technical Topics, and Best Practices. Contractors are also able to view recorded webinars, demonstrations, and other program related training materials. We curated training for everyone in the program.

Click on the link to go to the EELC⁵ register and take an online course today!

If you do not have access to the EELC or want access for additional staff, please email nancy.nuche@icf.com⁶.

In the News

How Low Can you Go an Inside Look into HERS Scores⁷ Taking the Performance Path⁸ Windows-and-doors-are-going-online⁹

⁴https://texaseelc.learnupon.com/users/sign_in

⁵https://texaseelc.learnupon.com/users/sign_in

⁶<mailto:nancy.nuche@icf.com>

⁷https://www.builderonline.com/building/building-science/how-low-can-you-go-an-inside-look-into-hers-scores_o

⁸https://www.buildingforward.com/intel/taking-the-performance-path?utm_source=newsletter&utm_content=Third-Party+Content&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BP_100719&

⁹<https://www.buildingforward.com/intel/windows-and-doors-are-going-online>

Upcoming Events

THE ASSOCIATE COUNCIL PRESENTS

ADOPT BY
NOV 30!

The 2019 Frank Aranza
ADOPT-A-FAMILY
Project

WRAP PARTY
FRI DEC 6, 2019
BRING GIFTS TO GHBA

CARAVAN
SAT DEC 7, 2019
DELIVER GIFTS W/ SANTA

Share in the JOY and help fulfill the Wish List of a family in need this holiday season.
Can't adopt? GHBA is also collecting gift cards to donate to the residents of a selected HomeAid Houston agency.

HOLIDAY CHEER SPONSORS:

 Selden Pet Center

 **FERGUSON**
Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery

 **HOMEPRO**
HOME TO HOLIDAYS

TO ADOPT:
CONTACT PEGGY MEANS AT
PMEANS@GHBA.ORG OR 128.11.684.1431

**Join the Custom Builders Council in a
Holiday Networking Event**



December 19th, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM

**Houston Racquet Club
10709 Memorial Drive @ Voss
\$55.00 per person by 12/12/19
\$65 per person starting 12/13/19
includes light appetizers and cocktails.**

**RSVP: Dbuenik@ghba.org or
281-664-1429**

*Must be a current member of the
Custom Builders Council to attend.
**No refunds 7 days prior to the event.

Contact Us



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