



Energy Code Smart Tip

Energy Code Benefits for Homeowners & Realtors

Energy codes = efficient + comfortable homes

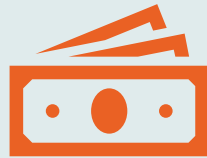
For over 25 years, building energy codes have played a significant role in saving American homeowners money on utilities while lowering carbon footprints.

Both homeowners and realtors benefit from homes that meet energy efficiency standards.

Energy code benefits

Reduced energy costs

Homeowners who purchase homes that meet energy code standards will see utility bill savings in heating and cooling costs. Energy dollars saved can be reinvested elsewhere.



Today's building energy codes provide over 30% more energy savings compared to the codes of a decade ago (US Department of Energy).

More desirable homes

Buyers want homes with green features!

A survey of homeowners by the National Association of Home Builders found that energy efficiency was at the top of their list of desirable green features. Homeowners want well constructed, efficient homes.



Energy efficient homes are easier to sell and have good resale value.

Improved comfort and health

Homes built to code have tighter building envelopes, which makes them less vulnerable to air leakage from the outside. This makes the indoor environment more comfortable.



Ventilation ensures that adequate fresh air is provided for safe, healthy homes.

Reduced emissions

Residential energy use makes up 20% of US total energy consumption. Homes that use less energy emit less carbon into the atmosphere, helping to mitigate climate change.



Homes that are energy code compliant demonstrate a commitment to reducing emissions and mitigating climate change.



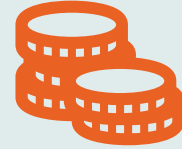
Will energy code compliance make my mortgage go up?

Meeting energy codes demands greater attention to construction details, leading to better-built homes

Sometimes this can increase first costs (e.g., more insulation material, more expensive lighting fixtures).

In other cases, designing for efficiency is actually cheaper (e.g., heating and cooling equipment that is sized correctly is cheaper).

Even if your mortgage increases slightly, the increase will be more than offset by lower utility bills. Energy codes have been proven to be cost effective in the long term.

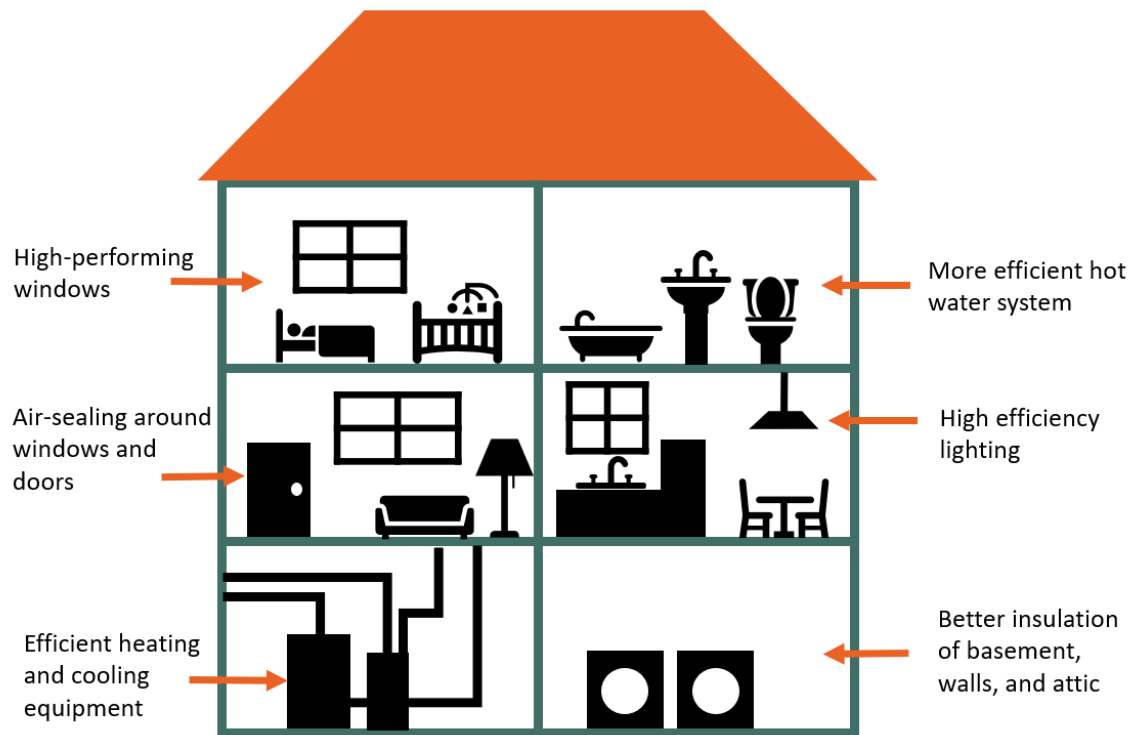


What energy efficient features can I expect to see in an energy code compliant home?

Remember!

It's much easier to make a home energy efficient from the start than to make changes to the envelope, mechanical, or electrical systems later!

Energy codes save on maintenance and repair costs and ensure a minimum standard of construction is met.



Energy Efficient Mortgage Program

Homes that go beyond minimum energy code requirements can qualify for the Federal Housing Authority's Energy Efficient Mortgage Program. This program allows you to finance energy efficient improvements with an FHA-insured mortgage.

A qualified home energy rater will provide a home energy assessment to identify opportunities for improving energy efficiency and their cost-effectiveness. Can be used for new or existing homes!

Learn more at

hud.gov/program_offices/housing/sfh/eem

Who we are

SEDAC is the Energy Code Training Provider on behalf of the Illinois EPA Office of Energy

Workshops | Webinars | Online Courses | Resources
Technical Assistance

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