

Heat Pumps: Your Next Big Step Toward Home Electrification

Do you know how much energy your heating and cooling system uses? It's probably a lot more than you realize. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, air conditioning alone makes up [16 percent of the total amount of electricity](#) the residential sector uses in this country.

That's not even accounting for heating. Those [consumption stats are divided](#) between electricity, natural gas, oil, propane, and other energy sources, so they're harder to gauge. But, consider this: [It'll cost around \\$746 a month to heat your home with gas heat this winter.](#)

That's a lot of money. And a lot of dependence on everything from your local utility companies to the [global affairs](#) and [international politics](#) affecting the prices of natural resources.

It's no wonder more Americans now are looking for the best ways to reduce their energy consumption, decarbonize their homes, or otherwise get off the grid. It's part of the new push toward [electrification](#): Switching from appliances and technologies that use fossil fuels to ones that rely on electricity you generate yourself.

And, changing the way you heat or cool your home means taking a huge step toward lower utility costs, less pollution, and greater energy independence.

The key to doing it? Switching from a conventional furnace and central air setup to a heat pump system.

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Here's how it works:

Solar panels are finally a viable electricity generation option for many Elgin-area homes. It all depends on the orientation of your roof and the amount of direct sunlight your roof receives.

Meanwhile, the heat pumps we install these days are more than capable of heating and cooling any home, matter how big, here in the Fox River Valley. That's something heat pumps a decade or two ago couldn't handle in our climate zone.

Related: Replacing Your Central Air? Here's Why A Heat Pump Is Better

So for the first time in history, it is possible in Kane County, IL to create a balanced, sustainable system that heats your home with electricity and cools your home all summer long.

This isn't just empty marketing talk. It's the walk we walk at Compass Heating and Air.

The Gunderson household (that's us, Mike and Beth) in East Dundee uses solar panels to provide electricity. Then, our heat pump handles 99 percent of our HVAC needs. We went with

the Daikin VRV Life system, which allows us to keep our gas furnace for the handful of nights every year that our system needs some backup.

The result? Our home is sustainable and as close to energy-independent as the technology will allow. And we don't rely on ComEd for electricity. Most of the time, we're sending power back to them for other homes to use.

It's a great feeling knowing that we're not relying on "the grid" for our power. That means no more dirty energy, rising prices, or having someone else in charge of when — and from where — we get our energy.

And, speaking of home, even with a 3,000 square foot house with our four children living here, no one's making any sacrifices when it comes to smart devices, appliances, and most importantly, comfort.

In fact, as much as I geek out on energy independence and technology, Beth thinks the comfort level alone is reason enough to use the heat pump. There's no noise and no hot or cold spots. Just perfect humidity and perfect, even temperature from room to room, even when you walk upstairs.

Related: Solar Power And High-Efficiency Heating And Cooling

The only difference we feel is better comfort with a variable-speed heat pump that always provides the perfect amount of heating or cooling. That and peace of mind.

Now, we've read a lot of blogs, watched a lot of videos, and even hopped into a bunch of Facebook groups and forums. A lot of people are really into electrifying their home 100 percent.

That's great! But, it's not for everyone. Maybe you want to get completely off the grid. Or, maybe you're okay with relying on your utilities for backup or a little bit of power here and there.

Related: Get Off The Grid With Sustainable Home Heating And Cooling

We'll help you build your personal road map to sustainability, independence, and comfort in your Fox River Valley home. Check out our [articles](#) or [podcast](#) to get some ideas. Or, click below or call (630) 504-8688 for a free consultation.

[CTA - Free consultation]

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