

Reducing your carbon footprint

Insulation

Did you know that you can have your local utility come out to your home and do an energy audit? I can hear it now, why in the world would I ask for an audit. It's not that kind of audit. This kind of audit an expert comes out and measures the amount of air leaking from key areas like windows, doors, chimney's, attics, basements, etc. This air leakage is just lost money as you spend money on heating and cooling your home and this now just leaks outside.

I remember hearing my mom yelling at me about leaving the door open in the summer "we aren't paying to cool the outside", well a poorly insulated home is basically like leaving the door open. These types of improvements are going to be costlier than previous suggestions of light bulbs and thermostats; however, these will pay back overtime. Many times utilities and the government will incentivize insulation improvements in the way of rebates or tax deductions to help alleviate costs and is a good reason to use a auditor who can direct you towards these incentives.

Results from an audit like this will be recommendations to replace single pane windows with double pane windows, weather stripping in doorways, attic insulation, water barriers in the crawlspace, hot water heater blankets, and even insulating hot water lines.



