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Maximum Comfort News

www.hentkowski.com

MESSAGE FROM
THE HOME OFFICE

Time to Save with Tax Rebates and Credits

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) includes tax credits and rebates for new heating and cooling equipment, energy-efficiency home improvements, and more. If you have been putting off making a change to your HVAC system, these new tax incentives might be the sign you needed - it's time.

The world is constantly changing. At Hentkowski Inc., we strive to do our part in the fight against climate change. With new advances in HVAC technology being made every day, we will continue to incorporate the highest energy-efficient equipment on the market. It's our goal to help you enjoy more comfort at home, use less energy, and save on monthly bills.

The good news is now there is additional help for YOU. That assistance comes in the form of **tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act, from \$600 for a new residential gas or oil furnace or boiler to \$2,000 for the installation of heat pumps.** These tax credits became available to homeowners on January 1, 2023. We take a closer look in **“Don't Forget: New Tax Incentives Available for Energy Efficient Upgrades” on page 2.**

The energy savings don't stop there; you'll also find these articles inside:

- * **“Ten Steps for Homeowners to Shrink their Carbon Footprint”**
- * **“Lower Your Electric Bill”**
- * **“We'll Make Your Air Conditioning System Purr”**
- * **“Reclaim Your Windows to the World”**
- * **“Are You Ready for Next Fall?”**



We thank you and all our loyal customers for your trust in us. Hentkowski Inc. is always here to help, day or night. Please call us if you have any questions about the IRA tax incentives and the requirements needed to meet them. We are here to serve you!

Barbara

Barbara Hentkowski

Stephen

Stephen Hentkowski

John

John Hentkowski, Jr.



Is Your Emergency Kit Ready for Anything?

From simple bug bites to scrapes and burns, make sure your home first-aid cabinet and your travel emergency kit are ready for virtually any situation.

At Home First Aid Cabinet

- ✓ Pain and fever relievers
- ✓ Alcohol wipes
- ✓ Bandages (multiple sizes)
- ✓ Regular eye drops
- ✓ Ointment for cuts and burns
- ✓ Non-drowsy allergy medication
- ✓ Bug spray and sunscreen

It's a great idea to keep your first aid kit stocked up with these items for emergencies, but what about if something happens when you are away from home? Here are some items to include in your emergency travel kit.

Emergency Travel Kit

- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Flashlight with spare batteries
- ✓ A blanket
- ✓ Any prescription medication
- ✓ Bug spray and sunscreen
- ✓ Phone charger

There is no such thing as being too prepared. If you think of something you don't see on our lists, feel free to include it in your emergency kits! Hentkowski Inc. wants you to enjoy the warm weather to the fullest. A well-stocked medicine cabinet and travel kit could be the difference between enjoying a sunset or tending to a skinned knee. Please contact us for any questions or concerns (302) 998-2257.



DON'T FORGET: New Tax Incentives Available for Energy Efficient Upgrades

Have you been thinking about upgrading your heating or cooling systems this year? With credits and other rebates available, there has never been a better time to do it.

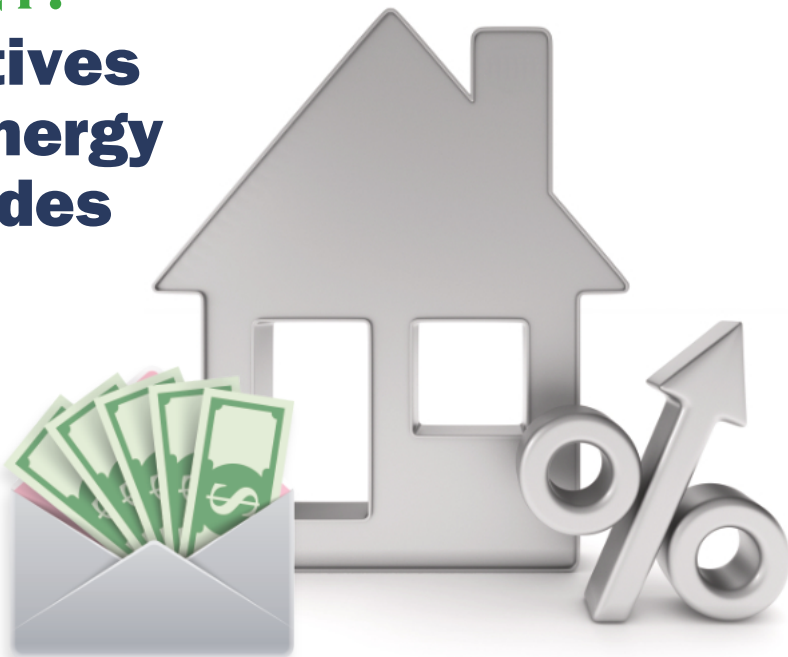
In our Fall 2022 Maximum Comfort newsletter, we explained the new efficiency standards and minimum efficiency levels required for all air conditioners and heat pumps manufactured after January 1, 2023. The good news is that the minimum efficiency level has increased by roughly 7%. In the North Region, including Pennsylvania and New Jersey, contractors can continue to install lower-efficiency systems that were produced before the deadline. In the Southeast Region, which includes Maryland and Delaware, all installations after January 1 must meet the new energy standards.

Also starting in January 2023, homeowners can earn tax incentives for energy-efficient upgrades made to their homes through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

TAX CREDITS FOR AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS AND CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS

Tax incentives are included in the IRA to help offset costs for homeowners who make the proper energy efficiency upgrades to their homes. When you combine these IRA tax credits and the money you will save on monthly energy bills with a new heating or cooling system, it will pay for itself in no time.

Homeowners can claim a tax credit of 30% of the project cost: \$2,000 maximum for new air-source heat pumps, \$1,200 maximum credit for ducted central air conditioners*
(Must meet or exceed efficiency requirements.)



WHOLE HOME EFFICIENCY REBATES

The IRA also includes whole-home energy efficiency rebates of up to \$8,000 for upgrades and efficiency projects that provide proven energy savings. Each state will be responsible for managing the rebate program and authorization of projects to qualify. Unfortunately, these rebates are not yet available; the Department of Energy is still developing the requirements and documentation to provide direction to states, tax professionals, and home service providers. Guidance is anticipated later this year, and we hope to be able to help you qualify for these rebates by next fall.

We are happy to explain these tax incentives and new efficiency requirements in further detail; just give us a call. Contact us for more information or to schedule an inspection to help find the perfect new heating and cooling system for your home.

We are not tax experts. Speak with your tax professional to see how these tax credits affect you.



WE ARE HIRING!

Please share the news- We're hiring! We stand by our employees and offer competitive salaries and a variety of benefits. Do you have a friend or family member who is reliable, a team player, and eager to join a great company with growth opportunities? We want to talk to them. Maybe that someone is you! Please contact us.

We take pride in our company's strong culture and inclusive work environment. Our dedicated staff take the time to make sure your voice is heard. A company is only as great as the people who work for it, which is why we do whatever we can to make you feel appreciated, respected and welcomed.

If you or someone you know is interested in this exciting employment opportunity, please contact us!

Reclaim Your Windows to the World

If you are still using window air conditioning units, you are losing out on all the benefits a window has to offer: a view of your yard ... fresh breezes wafting through your home ... sunlight to chase away shadows and nourish your house plants. Set your windows free by installing a top-of-the-line ductless mini-split system and let the sunshine in! 2023 is the year to ditch those clunky window units and upgrade to a ductless mini-split system. Here's why!

Tax Credits and Rebates Available

Beginning in January 2023, homeowners can take advantage of the numerous tax incentives for energy-efficient upgrades outlined in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022. We have a wide range of ductless mini-split systems that fit the energy-efficiency criteria to earn you tax credits for upgrading.

Sky-High Efficiency Ratings

Not only is that noisy window unit blocking your view, but it is also hiking up your energy costs. When you combine the tax incentives you get from the IRA with the monthly savings of your high-efficiency ductless mini-split system, it will quickly pay for itself.

A Perfect Fit for Every Home

Were you interested in upgrading to a central air conditioning system but were told that your home wasn't the "right fit?" With a ductless mini-split system, every home is the "right fit." They can be installed in virtually every home, unlike ducted central air conditioning systems.

It Pulls Double Duty

Many ductless mini-splits do more than cool your homes; these models can also be used for heating, especially as the seasons start to change. It will deliver a seamless transition from cooling to heating, and you won't have to lug around heavy window units.

Room-by-Room Control

With individual air handlers in each room, everyone in your household can control their own comfort. Remote controls adjust the thermostat settings so your family "bear" can hibernate in a polar environment, while rooms for seniors or infants can be kept at more moderate temperatures.

New Addition? No Problem

Did you make any new additions to your home recently, or are you tired of that one area of the house that never seems to reach a comfortable temperature? Ductless mini-split systems are perfect for single-room-focused heating and cooling and can be a great introduction to piecing together a fully comprehensive mini-split system.

Don't waste your time and effort lifting bulky window air conditioners and blocking out the sunshine in your home. Contact us today to speak with a professional about upgrading to a ductless mini-split system!

We'll Make Your Air Conditioning System Purr

If you don't take proper care of your central air conditioning system, it can screech and hiss and yowl like a mad cat! Our technicians can tame any pesky problems and have your cooling equipment purring like a contented kitty in no time.

Getting an A/C tune-up will save you money and improve your comfort in the short and long term. Perks of a tune-up include:

- ✓ **Increased energy efficiency** – An air conditioning tune-up keeps your system performing at peak operating efficiency and provides cool air throughout your entire home.
- ✓ **Prolonging your air conditioner's lifespan** – Tune-ups allow our professionals to find and fix potential equipment issues before they become severe. We'll help prevent serious malfunctions and breakdowns, keeping your system running with ease for years to come.
- ✓ **Reducing your energy bills** – Getting an annual tune-up prevents your central air conditioner from overworking. You'll be able to keep your home cooler while using less electricity, saving you money without breaking a sweat!

During a tune-up, our expert technicians will:

- ✓ Check your thermostat and settings
- ✓ Inspect and adjust all controls
- ✓ Clean the A/C unit to remove dirt and debris
- ✓ Recommend replacement parts as needed
- ✓ Perform part testing to restore maximum efficiency

Unfortunately, your comfort equipment doesn't have nine lives, so protecting the one it has is vital to your home comfort. Give us a call for your annual cooling and heating system tune-up and we'll have your equipment feeling like the king of the jungle.



Ten Steps to Shrink Your Carbon Footprint

When it comes to helping our planet and reducing our carbon emissions, we all have some pretty big shoes to fill. Luckily for us, reducing greenhouse gases can be a lot easier and more affordable than one may think. That's why we've put together this list of ten ways to shrink your carbon footprint.

1. Combine online orders: In order to reduce emissions from shipping and packaging, have all the items in your online cart shipped together rather than in increments.

2. Drive less: Taking mass transportation, riding your bike or even using your own two feet to get to and fro can help tremendously.

3. Upgrade to higher efficiency systems: Heat pumps can provide year-round comfort thanks to their heating and cooling settings. New, higher efficiency boilers and furnaces can also cut your footprint by as much as a ton of carbon a year.

4. Cut down on plastic: Plastic production actually accounts for over 3% of total U.S. energy consumption. Use reusable and recyclable products instead.

5. Check your home's insulation: Having cracks or gaps in your home allows hot or cold air from your house to escape, forcing your comfort system to work harder and use more energy.



6. Unplug electronics not in use: Many smaller electric appliances like televisions and cable boxes continue using energy even when they have been turned off. Use a power strip to easily switch the power off.

7. Shop for more locally produced food: It's been estimated that 13% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions result from the production and transport of food. Shopping for locally produced food can help reduce those emissions.

8. Recycle: Recycling plastics, paper, glass and items that you no longer use is one of the most effective ways of keeping the planet clean.

9. Avoid over-charging mobile devices: Don't charge your phone, laptop or smartwatch overnight. Overnight charging can waste energy, cause higher electric bills, and degrade battery life, causing you to charge it more often.

10. Take shorter showers: Taking too long in the shower can use up a lot of energy.

Bonus Tip: Using less energy also helps lower your carbon footprint. You can find more easy-to-do tips in the companion article below.

Following these helpful tips can promote cleaner air, healthier living, and a greener planet. Don't get cold feet when it comes to reducing your carbon footprint, start with these steps today!

Lower Your Electric Bill!

As the weather starts to heat up, homeowners often crank up their air conditioners and do whatever they can to stay cool. If you find your wallet burning up from electric bills, try following these helpful conservation tips.

*** Schedule your air conditioner tune-up:**

Getting an annual cooling system tune-up can help ensure that your equipment is performing at peak operating efficiency. Learn more about tune-ups in our "We'll Make Your Air Conditioner System Purr" article on page 3.

*** Install a programmable thermostat:**

A programmable thermostat operates on a pre-set schedule that provides the comfort you need and saves energy while you're away. You can save as much as 10% a year on your electric bill.

*** Use more shade:** Simply closing the blinds and keeping the lights off

during the day can help you stay cool while preserving your home's energy.

*** Check your vents:** Dirty or blocked air vents can force your central air conditioner to work harder, costing you more money. Vacuum and clean your vents regularly and move any furniture or appliances that may be blocking them.

*** Use your ceiling fans more often:** Ceiling fans are a great way to get the cool air you need at a fraction of the cost. By moving the air around the

room, fans create a wind chill effect to make you feel cooler, allowing you to raise the temperature on your thermostat or turn your A/C off altogether.

Don't let your summer plans melt away because of intimidating electric bills. These effective energy saving tips can help you save money. Using less energy also lowers your carbon footprint! Get more tips by checking out our "Ten Steps to Shrink Your Carbon Footprint."



Are You Ready for Next Fall?

How does that old saying go? "Work smarter, not harder." That is precisely the thinking you should have when it comes to your heating equipment. Although winter has passed, being proactive and taking preventative measures now, like scheduling a heating tune-up or making necessary upgrades to your heating system, will allow it to work much easier and save you time and money come winter. Let's look at some of the measures you can take to prepare for next fall.

Join our HVAC Preventative Maintenance Program

We offer a preventative maintenance program to help reduce the risk of breakdowns by performing yearly upkeep on your furnace or heat pump. We take tremendous pride in offering reliable service, quality products, around-the-clock emergency service, affordable rates, and licensed technicians to service and maintain your HVAC system.

Look into Making Upgrades

Have you ever said to yourself, "I'll replace it next year?" Luckily, it's an excellent year to do it. As we discussed in our "Message From the Home Office," there are new tax incentives you can claim through the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. With tax credits and special financing, upgrading is more affordable than ever.

Schedule a Heating Tune-up Before the Season Starts

Before winter sneaks up on us and Jack Frost blows back into town, you should call us to schedule a system tune-up. Regular maintenance is one of the best ways to catch minor problems early and prevent them from becoming big problems. Additionally, a tune-up will help your equipment last longer, reduce utility bills, provide a more comfortable indoor environment, and more.

Yes, the heating season is finally over, but in the coming months, there are a few easy things you can get started on now to enjoy a worry-free spring and summer and a warm, cozy, lower-cost winter. Call Hentkowski Inc. today at (302) 998-2257 or visit us at www.hentkowski.com to get more information on any of these services.



WE LOVE THIS PRODUCT!

Carrier Ductless Mini-Splits/Heat Pumps

Don't let the name "heat pump" confuse you! These air conditioning dynamos in small packages are called heat pumps because the system pumps the heat out of your home and returns cool air in. Many of these versatile systems provide energy efficient cooling and heating for year-round comfort.

Carrier ductless systems can be installed in any home because they do not need the attic or ceiling space of traditional central air conditioners. Our Carrier mini-splits have high efficiency ratings, so you get more comfort while using less electricity than with window units or other systems, and many models are eligible for the new tax credits offered under the Inflation Reduction Act (see page 2).

Just take a look at all you get with a Carrier ductless heat pump!

- Easy, remote-controlled operation
- Whisper-quiet operations
- Turbo mode for when you need to cool off fast!
- Multiple fan speeds
- Attractive indoor units
- Sleep and ECO modes
- 10-year parts limited warranty
- Years and years of comfort
- And much more!

Call Hentkowski Inc. at (302) 998-2257 or visit www.hentkowski.com to find out how a Carrier ductless mini-split will keep you cooler and cost less than your current cooling system. Financing may also be available.

Want more information?

Simply complete the form below and send it back to us.

Name (first, middle initial, last) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

I'd like more information on:

(check all applicable)

- ☐ Indoor Air Quality Solutions
- ☐ Programmable Thermostats
- ☐ Heating Equipment Replacements
- ☐ Maintenance Plans
- ☐ Cooling System Upgrades
- ☐ Other: _____

SPRING 2023

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Hentkowski, Inc.
"Your Key To Comfort"®
Heating, Air Conditioning & Electrical

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LIC. # PA001898



Windows Open! Tissues Out!

You may think you're clearing out stale air when you open the windows on perfect spring days, but you're actually letting in allergens and irritants like grass and tree pollen, dust, bugs, car exhausts and more! If you must turn down your HVAC system, you'll want to have an Indoor Air quality system to get rid of everything else that comes in with the "fresh air!"

We have the solution to the runny eyes, clogged sinuses, sneezing fits and worsened asthma symptoms from spring allergies!

Carrier Infinity® Air Purifiers

The Carrier Infinity air purifier captures up to 95% of the invisible particles floating through your air handling system and kills up to 99% of germs. This unit has been proven effective against the flu, common cold and streptococcus pathogens and also removes bacteria, pollen, animal dander and other pollutants.



Fresh Air Ventilators

Get the "open window feeling" without opening your home to air pollution with a fresh air ventilator. These systems exchange the heating and cooling energy from the stale air being sent out of your home, and mix it with fresh air drawn from the outside to cycle back inside. Ventilators have a high-efficiency heat recovery core that transfers the energy and also removes excess humidity in your system and an air filter that cleans the outdoor air of particles and allergens before they can circulate inside.



In addition to our indoor air quality solutions, follow these tips to reduce allergy symptoms:

- Stay indoors when it's very windy.
- After going outside, remove clothes and shower to rinse pollen off
- Wear a facemask when working outdoors
- Close doors and windows at night when pollen counts are high
- Avoid outdoor activities in the early morning
- Vacuum and dust regularly
- Use your air conditioner

Ready to take a deep cleansing breath?
Do it safely with air purifiers from your friends at Hentkowski Inc.! Call us today at (302) 998-2257 or visit www.hentkowski.com to learn more.

Memorial Day: We Remember

We honor the American heroes who sacrificed their lives for our great country. This Memorial Day, join us in commemorating the brave men and women who gave all for our freedoms. They live forever in our hearts and memories.

