# **Heat Pump Planner**



developed with







## **Heat Pump Planner**

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NYSERDA offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and support to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect the environment and create clean energy jobs. A public benefit corporation, NYSERDA has been advancing innovative energy solutions since 1975.

## What Are Heat Pumps?

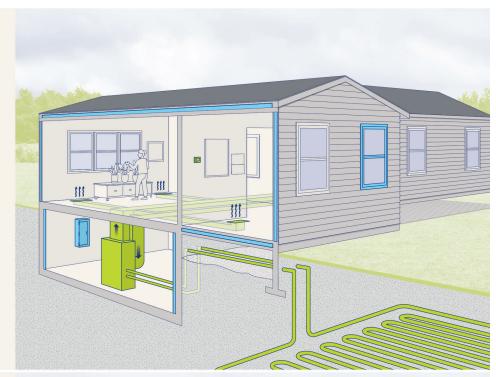
Heat pumps are a cleaner, more efficient heating and cooling option that can provide up to 100 percent of your heating and cooling needs and help save on energy bills. In the summer they work like an air conditioner to move heat from inside to outside. In the winter they work in reverse: using electricity to move heat from outside to inside instead of burning fuel. This proven technology works all winter across New York State. During the summer, heat pumps provide cooling much more efficiently than window ACs or older central ACs.

#### **Types of Heat Pumps**

Ground source heat pumps (aka "Geothermal" heat pumps) use buried pipes to extract heating or cooling from below ground.

Compared to air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps are more efficient and do not require outdoor units (condensers).

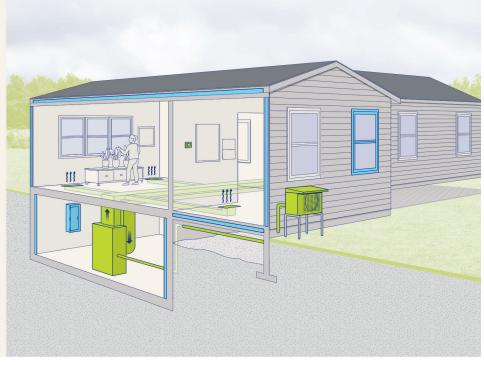
Ground source systems typically take longer and cost more to install.



Air source heat pumps extract heating or cooling from outdoor air. Technology designed for cold climates can efficiently heat homes all winter across New York State.

Air source systems are less costly to install and more versatile, but are not as efficient as ground source heat pumps.

Outdoor units – similar to AC condensers – are necessary with air source heat pumps.



## Why Heat Pumps?

## Heat pumps are **safer**, more **efficient**, more **sustainable**, and more **versatile**. Why?

- Heat pumps cost less to operate than oil, propane, or electric baseboard heating systems.
- Heat pumps are safer because they use electricity, not gas or liquid fuels. There is no chimney, gas line, oil tank, or burning of fuels and no risk of generating carbon monoxide.
- Heat pumps are a one-stop shop for your heating and cooling needs. The same unit cools your house in the summer and provides heat in the winter.
- Heat pumps generate no greenhouse gas emissions when your electricity comes from clean sources. Heat pumps can also be powered by solar at your home.
- With current technology, heat pumps are efficient all winter and can provide most (if not ALL) of heating needs in homes across New York State.

## Consider Heat Pumps When:

- You want to save money compared to an oil, propane, or electric baseboard heating system
- You want to add air conditioning or replace an existing AC
- Your heating system is old and will soon need replacement
- You are planning a major renovation or building a new home
- You want to address comfort problems in certain areas of your home
- You need to provide heating and cooling to an addition
- You want to improve health and safety for your family
- You want to reduce your carbon footprint

# Using the Heat Pump Planner











#### What kind of home do you have?

The guide shows a variety of systems in several types of homes.

#### Do you have forced-air heating?

If your home currently has ducts for heating or cooling, these can often be reused for ducted heat pump systems.

#### No ducts? No problem.

There are many ductless options for heat pumps.

Whole home solution? Heat pumps can efficiently heat and cool entire homes all across the state, but they can also be installed in additions or spaces with comfort problems.

#### Know the right questions to ask.

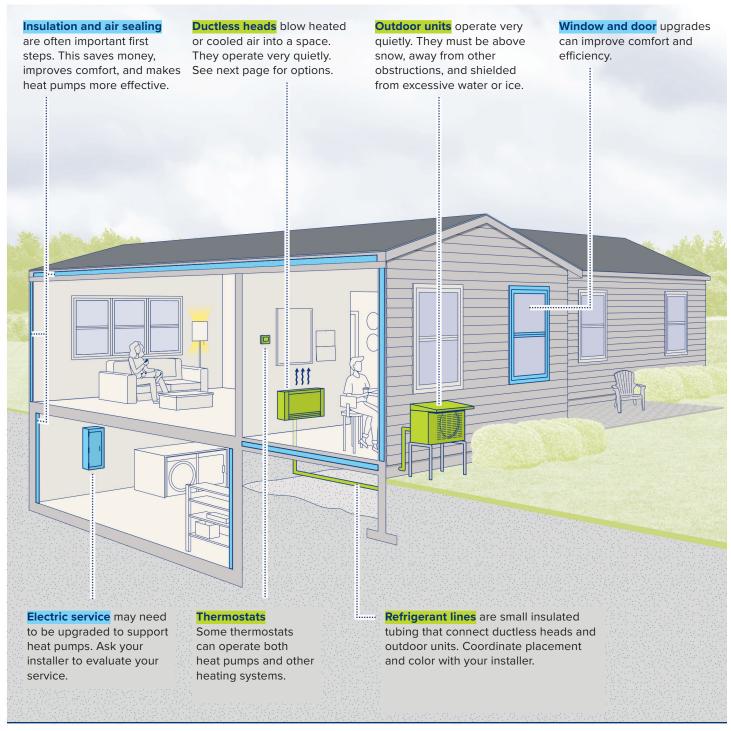
Each system includes key questions for your heat pump installer. Work with installers to review options for your home type, price point, and other goals. Insulate the home. Adding insulation and sealing air leaks will improve comfort, lower heating and cooling bills, and reduce the size (and cost) of the heat pumps needed. See resources for making your home more efficient at <a href="https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Residents-and-Homeowners/Seal-and-Insulate-Your-Home">www.nyserda.ny.gov/Residents-and-Homeowners/Seal-and-Insulate-Your-Home</a>.

Understand costs, financing, and incentives. Heating with heat pumps is less costly than with oil, propane, or electric baseboards. Check with NYSERDA or your electric company for incentives and financing options.



## **Ductless Heat Pump for a One-Story Home**

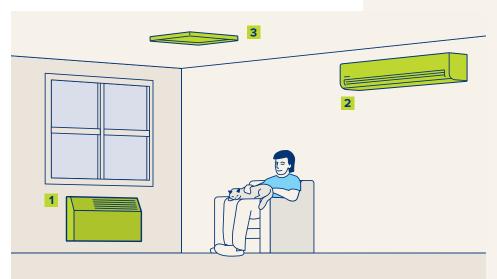
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- Among simplest and least expensive heat pump system to install
- Control temperature in different areas of the home
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#### **Types of Ductless Heads**

Many options for indoor fan coils or "heads" are available. For optimal comfort and efficiency, each head should be sized to meet specific heating and cooling needs. Your heat pump installer can suggest the best options based on those needs plus size and configuration of the space.



**1 Low-wall** or **floor mount** units may be installed where radiators once were. Do not block them with furniture

OR

**2 High-wall** are the most common and versatile.

OR

**3 Recessed** can be flush with ceilings or walls. Ask your installer about installation and maintenance.

#### **Ask Your Installer**

- What size units do I need? Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Can heat pumps provide all of my heat or do I need backup?
- What is the best location for each head?
  Can we avoid heads directly above where people sit or sleep?
- · What are my options for locating each outdoor unit?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
- How do I operate my system for the best comfort and efficiency?
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#### **Installation Cost**

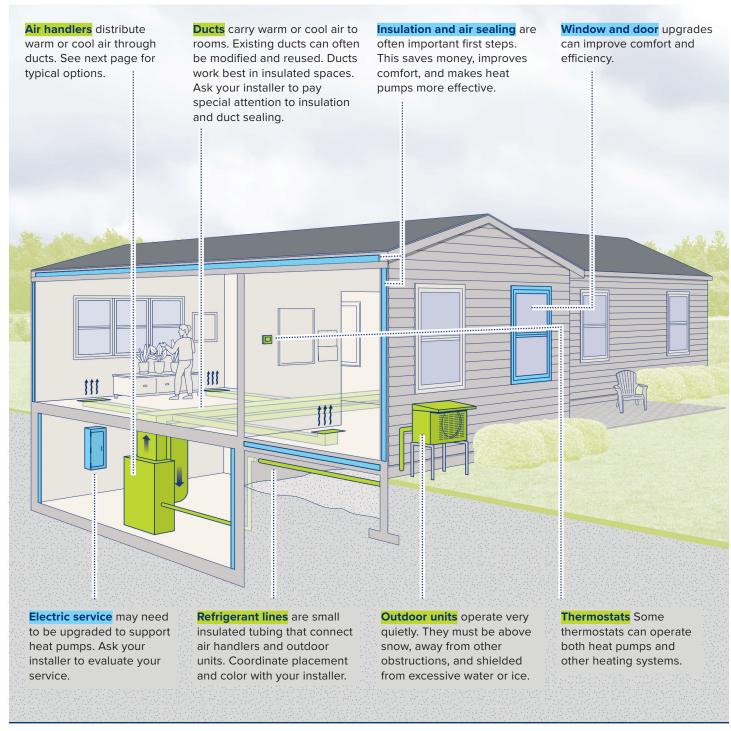
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- Cost varies with region, heat pump size, manufacturer, installation complexity, and installer experience

- Your overall heating costs will likely decrease if switching from oil, propane or electric baseboard
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- Efficient homes (windows, doors, insulation, air sealing) have much lower operating costs

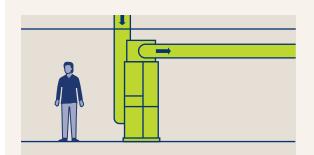


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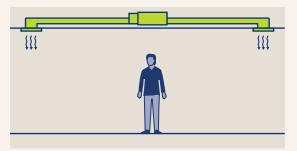
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#### **Air Handler Options**

Air handlers are equipment that move warm or cool air through ducts. Your installer can guide you to the best options based on heating and cooling needs, existing systems, and home configuration.



Compact ducted air handlers usually serve smaller areas such as 1-3 rooms. Their slim profile means they often fit in dropped ceilings, but leaving access for maintenance is important.

#### **Ask Your Installer**

- Will proper heating and cooling get to each space? Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Are my ducts big enough for a heat pump?
  What modifications are needed?
- Can heat pumps provide all of my heat or do I need backup?
- What are my options for locating each outdoor unit?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
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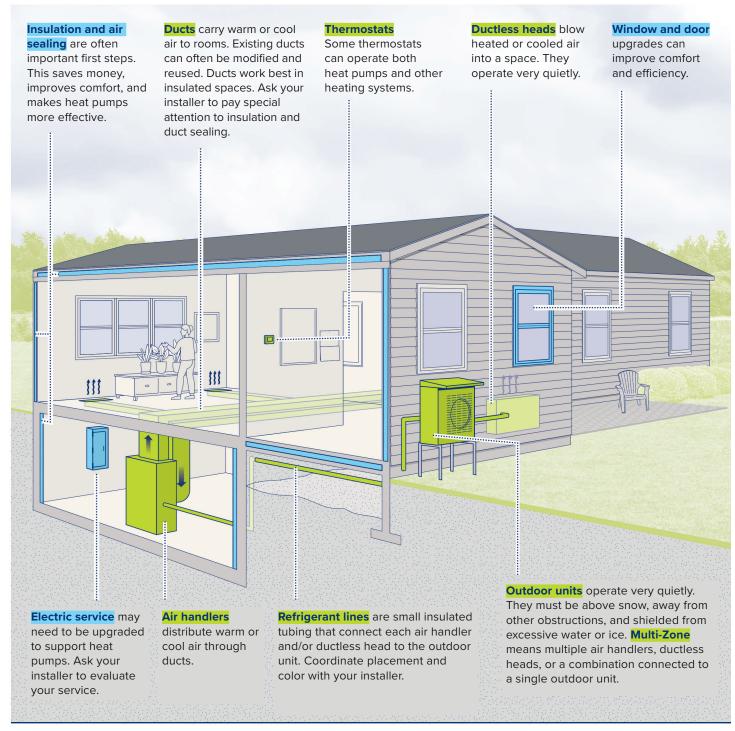
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## **Multi-zone Heat Pump for a One-Story Home**

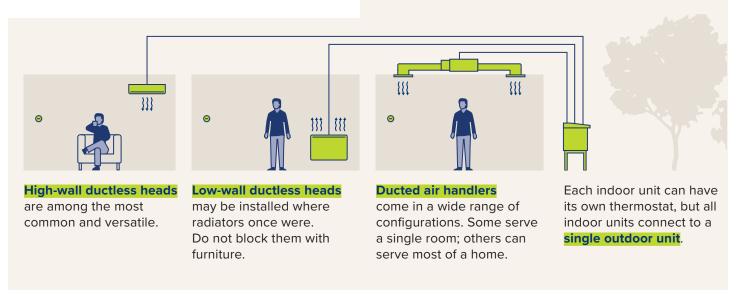
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- Save space outdoors with multiple indoor units connected to one outdoor unit
- Control temperature in different areas of the home
- Options for both ducted and ductless heating and cooling
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- · Eliminate window air conditioners

#### **Types of Indoor Units**

Multi-zone heat pumps allow you to "mix and match" ducted air handlers and ductless "heads." Each should be sized to meet specific heating and cooling needs of the space it serves. Your installer can suggest the best options based on those needs, configuration of the home, and location of ducts (if present). Options include:



#### Ask Your Installer

- What size units do I need? Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Can heat pumps provide all of my heat or do I need backup?
- What is the best location for each indoor unit?
  Can we avoid heads directly above where people sit or sleep?
- What are my options for locating the outdoor unit(s)?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
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#### **Cost Considerations**

#### **Installation Cost**

- Check with NYSERDA, your electric company, and installer for incentives and financing options. Higher incentives may be available for eligible customers
- Each zone adds cost, so use fewer zones when practical
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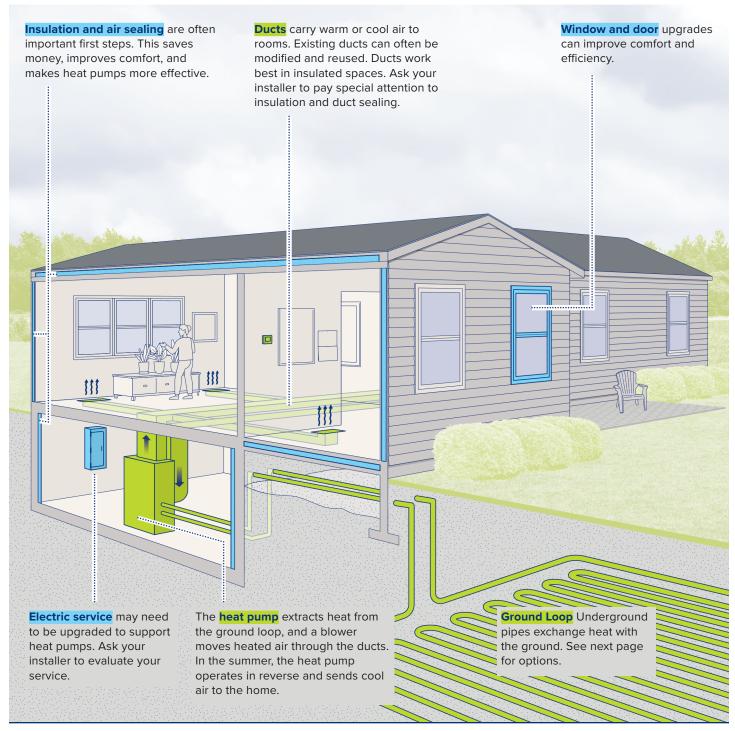
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"Geothermal" heat pumps use electricity to provide clean, efficient heating and cooling.

- Ground source or "Geothermal" systems heat and cool homes year round
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- · Highest efficiency with lowest operating costs
- Quiet with no outdoor condensers or window air conditioners
- Heating and cooling distributed throughout the home with new or existing ducts
- Can also provide water heating

#### **Ground Loop Types**

Underground pipes exchange heat between the heat pump and the ground. Your installer will determine the proper type and size of ground loop based on:

- Land area available
- Type of rock or soil
- Heating and cooling needs of the home

There are two main types of loops.



#### Ask Your Installer

- Will proper heating and cooling get to each space?
  Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Are my ducts big enough for a heat pump?
  What modifications are needed?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
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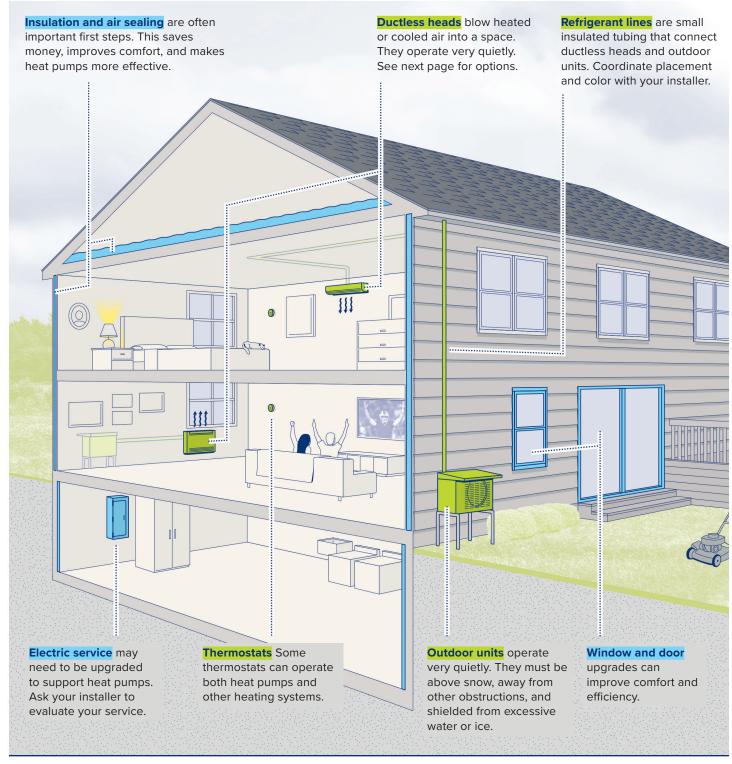
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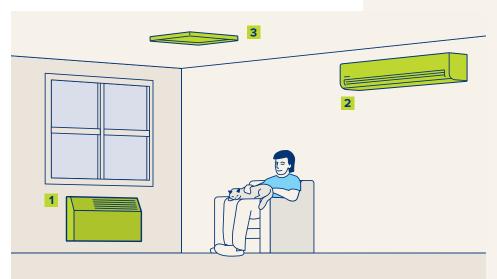
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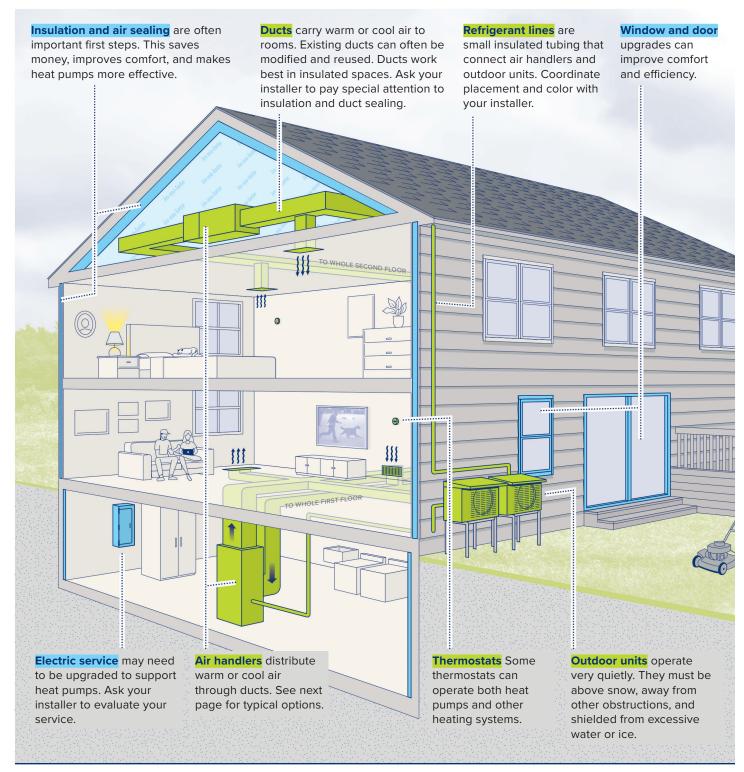
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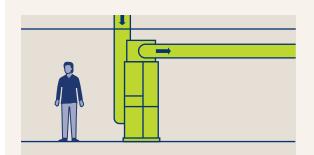


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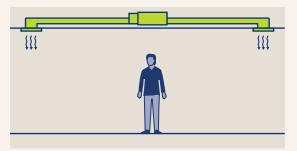
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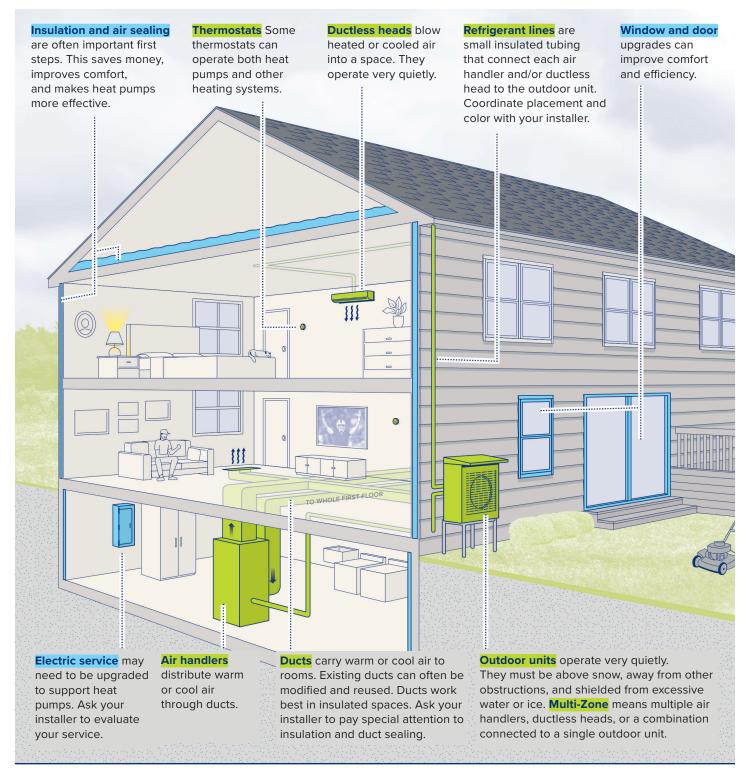
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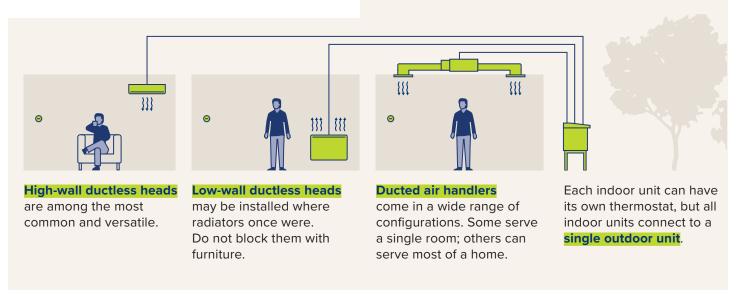
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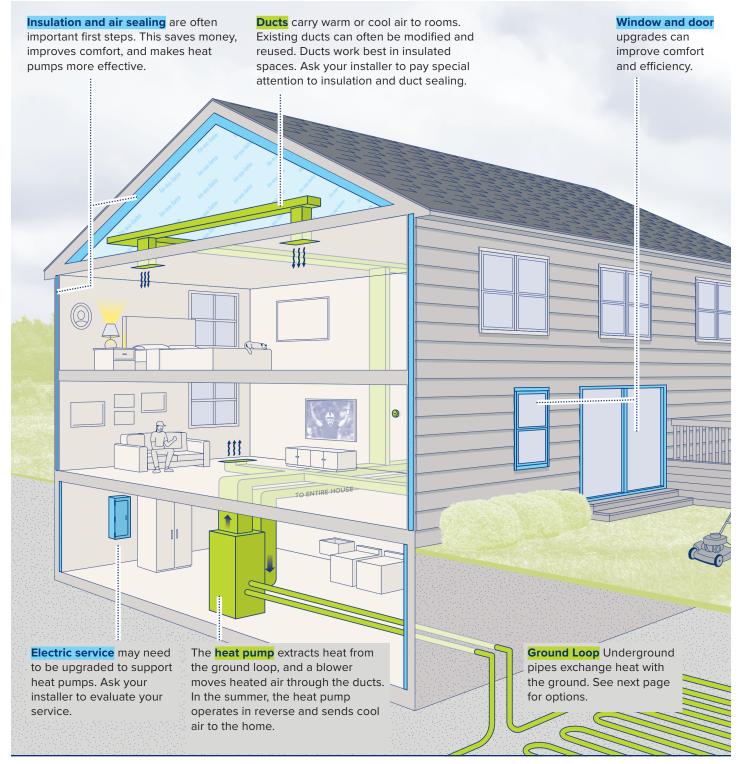
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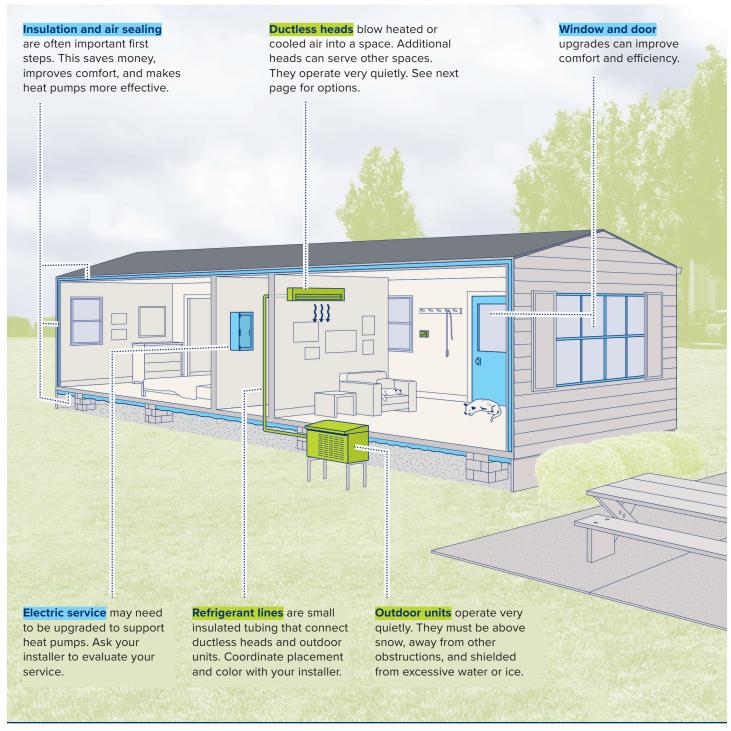
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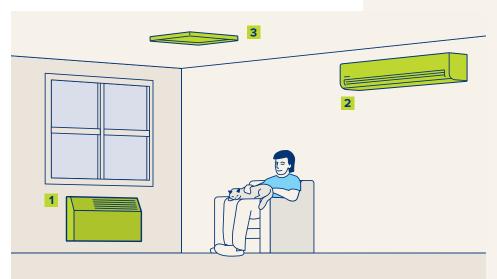
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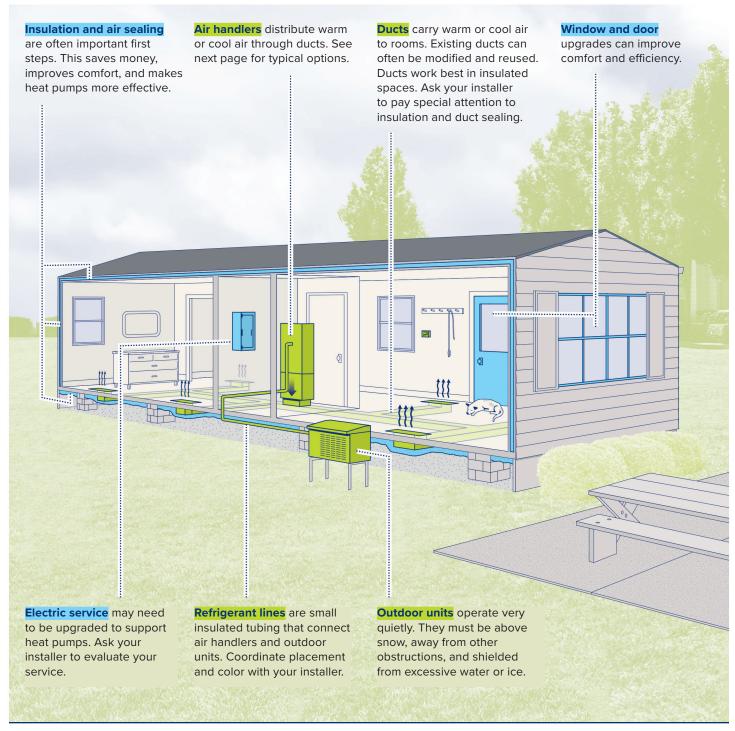
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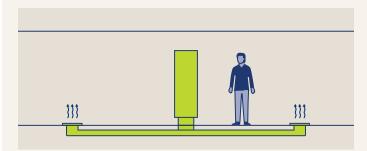
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- Versatile solution for new or existing homes



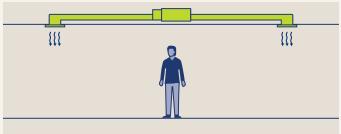
- Heating and cooling distributed throughout the home with new or existing ducts
- · No wall-mounted indoor units
- Quiet and efficient operation
- Eliminate window air conditioners

#### **Air Handler Options**

Air handlers are equipment that move warm or cool air through ducts. Your installer can guide you to the best options based on heating and cooling needs, existing systems, and home configuration.



**Conventional air handlers** move air through larger ducts. They are often located in basements, attics, or utility closets. They can be installed to blow air upwards, downwards, or sideways to fit within your home.



Compact ducted air handlers usually serve smaller areas such as 1-3 rooms. Their slim profile means they often fit in dropped ceilings, but leaving access for maintenance is important.

#### **Ask Your Installer**

- Will proper heating and cooling get to each space?
  Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Are my ducts big enough for a heat pump?
  What modifications are needed?
- Can heat pumps provide all of my heat or do I need backup?
- What are my options for locating each outdoor unit?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
- How do I operate my system for the best comfort and efficiency?
- What maintenance is required? How often should I clean or change air filters? Is annual service needed?
- What is the expected lifespan and warranty?

#### **Cost Considerations**

#### **Installation Cost**

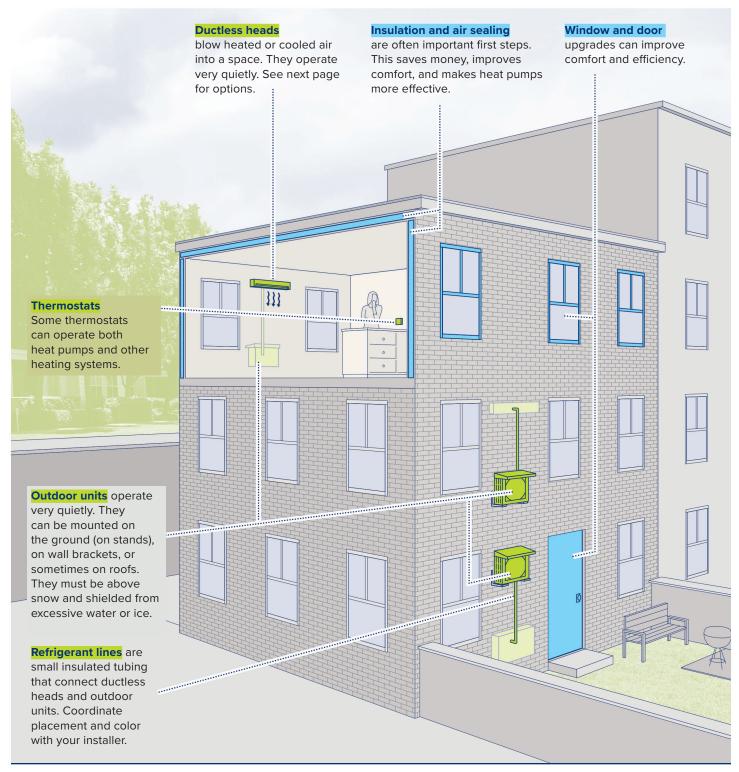
- Check with NYSERDA, your electric company, and installer for incentives and financing options. Higher incentives may be available for eligible customers
- If your home has ducts that can be reused, installation costs will be lower
- Cost varies with region, heat pump size, manufacturer, installation complexity, and installer experience

- Your overall heating costs will likely decrease if switching from oil, propane or electric baseboard
- If you previously heated with fuel, don't be surprised to see electric bills rise. Your gas, oil, or propane bills will drop or disappear
- Efficient homes (windows, doors, insulation, air sealing) have much lower operating costs



## **Ductless Heat Pump in an Apartment**

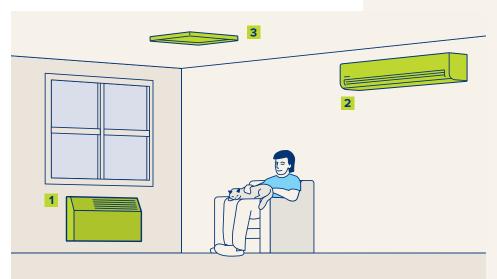
- Proven technology heats and cools homes year round across New York State
- · One system provides comfort in both summer and winter
- Healthy and safe with no fuels, no carbon monoxide, and no window air conditioners
- Affordable with rebates, financing options, and low operating costs
- · Clean and green with low greenhouse gas emissions
- Versatile solution for new or existing homes



- Among simplest and least expensive heat pump system to install
- Control temperature in different areas of the home
- Quiet and efficient operation
- Eliminate window air conditioners.

#### **Types of Ductless Heads**

Many options for indoor fan coils or "heads" are available. For optimal comfort and efficiency, each head should be sized to meet specific heating and cooling needs. Your heat pump installer can suggest the best options based on those needs plus size and configuration of the space.



**1 Low-wall** or **floor mount** units may be installed where radiators once were. Do not block them with furniture

OR

**2 High-wall** are the most common and versatile.

OR

**3 Recessed** can be flush with ceilings or walls. Ask your installer about installation and maintenance.

#### **Ask Your Installer**

- What size units do I need? Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Can heat pumps provide all of my heat or do I need backup?
- What is the best location for each head?
  Can we avoid heads directly above where people sit or sleep?
- · What are my options for locating each outdoor unit?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
- How do I operate my system for the best comfort and efficiency?
- What maintenance is required? How often should I clean or change air filters? Is annual service needed?
- What is the expected lifespan and warranty?

#### **Cost Considerations**

#### **Installation Cost**

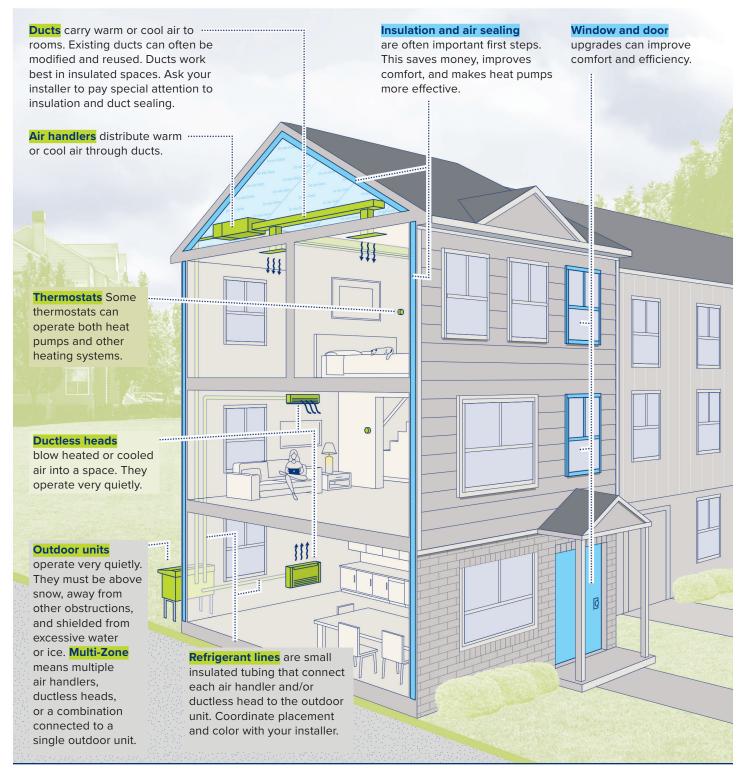
- Check with NYSERDA, your electric company, and installer for incentives and financing options. Higher incentives may be available for eligible customers
- Ductless heat pumps are among the simplest and least expensive to install
- Cost varies with region, heat pump size, manufacturer, installation complexity, and installer experience

- Your overall heating costs will likely decrease if switching from oil, propane or electric baseboard
- If you previously heated with fuel, don't be surprised to see electric bills rise. Your gas, oil, or propane bills will drop or disappear
- Efficient homes (windows, doors, insulation, air sealing) have much lower operating costs



## **Multi-zone Heat Pump for a Townhome**

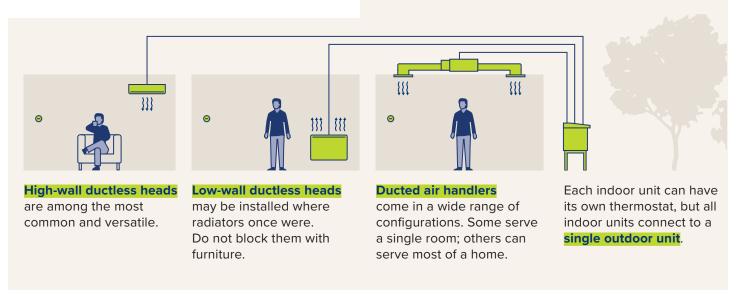
- Proven technology heats and cools homes year round across New York State
- One system provides comfort in both summer and winter
- Healthy and safe with no fuels, no carbon monoxide, and no window air conditioners
- Affordable with rebates, financing options, and low operating costs
- · Clean and green with low greenhouse gas emissions
- Versatile solution for new or existing homes



- Save space outdoors with multiple indoor units connected to one outdoor unit
- Control temperature in different areas of the home
- Options for both ducted and ductless heating and cooling
- · Quiet and efficient operation
- · Eliminate window air conditioners

#### **Types of Indoor Units**

Multi-zone heat pumps allow you to "mix and match" ducted air handlers and ductless "heads." Each should be sized to meet specific heating and cooling needs of the space it serves. Your installer can suggest the best options based on those needs, configuration of the home, and location of ducts (if present). Options include:



#### Ask Your Installer

- What size units do I need? Ask for room-by-room heating and cooling calculations.
- Can heat pumps provide all of my heat or do I need backup?
- What is the best location for each indoor unit?
  Can we avoid heads directly above where people sit or sleep?
- What are my options for locating the outdoor unit(s)?
- How long will installation take? Where and when will you need access?
- How do I operate my system for the best comfort and efficiency?
- What maintenance is required? How often should I clean or change air filters? Is annual service needed?
- What is the expected lifespan and warranty?

#### **Cost Considerations**

#### **Installation Cost**

- Check with NYSERDA, your electric company, and installer for incentives and financing options. Higher incentives may be available for eligible customers
- Each zone adds cost, so use fewer zones when practical
- Cost varies with region, heat pump size, manufacturer, installation complexity, and installer experience

- Your overall heating costs will likely decrease if switching from oil, propane or electric baseboard
- If you previously heated with fuel, don't be surprised to see electric bills rise. Your gas, oil, or propane bills will drop or disappear
- Efficient homes (windows, doors, insulation, air sealing) have much lower operating costs





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