

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Cool Ways To Lower Energy Bills

(NAPSA)—If energy costs are getting you hot under the collar, consider these hints:

- Install a programmable thermostat you can turn down when you're not home.

- Use compact fluorescent lightbulbs.

- Air dry dishes instead of using your dishwasher's drying cycle.

- Turn off your computer and monitor when not in use.

- Plug home electronics, such as TVs and DVD players, into power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use. (TVs and DVDs in standby mode still use several watts of power.)

- Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater to 120°F.

- Take short showers instead of baths.

- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes.

- Keep your home cooling costs from going through the roof by installing a cool roof that can help reduce energy use. Steel shingles are not only energy efficient, they can reduce roof heat by 100 degrees.

A cool roof reflects and emits the sun's heat back to the sky instead of transferring it to the building below.

Benefits of a cool roof can include:

- Energy savings
- Improved occupant comfort
- A possible tax savings.

If your roof tiles are Energy Star-qualified by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, you may qualify for tax credits under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It provides up to \$1,500 in tax credits for installing a qualified energy-efficient roof



Installing a “cool” metal roof may reduce the energy required to heat your house and may also be eligible for federal tax credits.

before the end of 2010. The tax credit applies only to existing principal residences. Your tax professional can determine if you qualify.

Qualified roof products reflect more of the sun's rays, decreasing the amount of heat transferred into your home. The amount of energy savings, if any, depends on the building's design, location and various other factors. Fortunately, you can get cool metal roof tiles in a variety of styles and colors, including slate and cedar looks. The MetalWorks Cool Color Steel Shingles from TAMKO Building Products, Inc., one of the largest roofing manufacturers in the U.S., are impact and fire resistant and come with a 50-year limited warranty.

Learn More

For more information on Energy Star-qualified products and the possibility of earning tax credits, see your tax professional and the “ARRA Tax Credits” link on the bottom of the Web site www.TAMKO.com.

You can also learn more by calling (800) 641-4691.