

ENERGY-SAVING IDEAS

Geothermal Cuts Costs And Carbon Footprint

(NAPSA)—For homeowners plagued by high energy costs or who are looking to take steps toward reducing their carbon footprint, sustainable, renewable, cost-effective energy is now readily available—literally, right beneath their feet. According to studies by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, geothermal heating and cooling, using the renewable solar heat energy stored in the Earth, is the most energy-efficient option available.

The experts at WaterFurnace Renewable Energy say it's also the most plentiful source of renewable energy and is available virtually anywhere in the United States.

The sustainability and energy efficiency of geothermal systems come from the fact that the temperature just a few feet below ground remains almost constant throughout the year, regardless of climate. That's because the ground absorbs and retains 47 percent of the sun's energy.

A geothermal heat pump uses a small-diameter pipe called an earth loop to reach this energy source and provide cooling in summer and heating in the winter without burning fossil fuels. Even noise pollution is avoided—the system's sound level is similar to that of a refrigerator.



For homeowners looking to reduce both energy costs and their carbon footprint, things are looking up as more and more are looking down—at the green, renewable geothermal energy lying right beneath their feet.

Geothermal systems can also generate free heat for hot water in the summer months and provide tempered water for your water heater the rest of the time.

It's the greenest system available in more ways than one: Homeowners can reduce both their carbon footprint and their utility bills. The energy savings provided by a WaterFurnace Envision geothermal system, for example, can be as much as 70 percent when compared with a conventional system (natural gas, oil, electricity or propane fuel).

For more information on energy-efficient geothermal heating and cooling, visit www.waterfurnace.com.