

**Fact** 

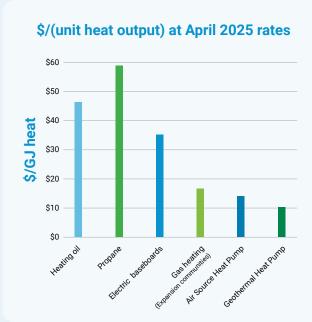
The cost of gas expansion projects is paid for in part with a \$0.23/m³ surcharge in gas expansion communities.

Enbridge Gas is building pipelines to supply fossil gas in new areas across the province. This expansion is paid for by a \$1 per month subsidy from all Enbridge Gas customers and a \$0.23/ m³ surcharge for customers in gas expansion communities. This means that homeowners in these new gas communities who opt for a gas hookup will pay 76% more per cubic metre than Enbridge's existing customers. Homes that are set back from the road may also be charged extra to run the gas lines to their home.

## Using a heat pump is the most cost-effective heating solution in gas expansion communities.

A heat pump moves heat rather than generating heat, making it far more efficient and more cost effective to operate than any other heating option available in Ontario's gas expansion communities. A home that heats with a cold climate air source heat pump (ccASHP) would spend 18% less on home heating than if they had installed a gas furnace. With a ground source heat pump (GSHP), the cost of heat would be **cut by 40**%.

And homes that avoid hooking up to gas will save an additional \$362 per year in gas connection charges.



**Fact** 

There are incentives available for households that are installing heat pumps.

The Greener Homes Loan program that offers interest-free financing for heat pumps and other energy efficiency measures is still operating.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are also available through the Oil to Heat Pump Affordability Program.

If your home is electrically heated (e.g., baseboards) and you have a low to moderate income, you could be eligible for a free heat pump (including installation) from the province's Save on Energy program.

Ask your installer about these and other incentives available in your area.

Heat pumps will benefit you in other ways.

A heat pump is basically an air conditioner that can work in reverse. In summer, a heat pump pulls heat from the home and dumps it outside, and in winter it pulls heat from outside to heat your home (there is still heat in even cold air). With summers heating up, having access to cooling in summer is no longer a luxury, it is a necessity.

Many homeowners with a heat pump will tell you that their home is more comfortable since it has been installed. This is because heat pumps provide more even heat throughout the day and operate more efficiently when setbacks are minimized.

All electric homes also protect you from toxic fumes from gas equipment and reduce the risk of childhood asthma. Thirteen percent of childhood asthma in the United States is attributable to gas stove use. Keeping gas out also eliminates the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

A heat pump is also one of the most important steps that you can take to reduce your climate impact, save on carbon taxes, and protect yourself from volatile gas prices.

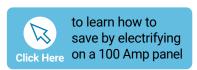
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Ask about alternatives to upgrades to electrical panels when installing heat pumps and other electric appliances.

Ask your electrician about <u>smart panels</u>, <u>circuit sharers</u>, <u>circuit pausers and breaker consolidation</u>. These are all options to avoid an electrical service or panel upgrade when adding new electrical appliances.









No matter how you look at it, heat pumps are your best option for home heating.