Energy Fit HomesSM is a certificate program, administered by the Center for Energy and Environment, that is designed specifically for existing homes in Minnesota and is focused exclusively on energy use. Certified homes have reached a basic standard of energy efficiency, with all improvements done to meet Energy Fit Homes health and safety standards.

Energy Fit Homes is intended to be a time of sale tool for both homebuyers and sellers. When selling a home, the certificate may increase the home's value and could be used as a marketing tool to provide an edge in the real estate market. For homebuyers, it offers assurance that the home is energy efficient so they can focus more on other aspects of homeownership.

Energy Fit Homes can add value to the customer experience by increasing awareness of utility usage for homebuyers and connecting with post-sale clients about this unique opportunity.

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT

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or visit
MNENERGYFIT.ORG

A REALTOR®’S GUIDE to ENERGY FIT HOMES
BENEFITS

Energy efficiency is seen as a benefit to homeowners. It reduces the energy consumption of a home, lowering utility bills and helping homeowners save money. This fact, in and of itself, demonstrates how Energy Fit HomesSM could add value to the real estate industry.

• Factor into purchase decision
  Many homebuyers consider the cost of heating and cooling somewhat important when buying a home (National Assoc. of Realtors®, 2011). Energy Fit Homes could solidify the decision to make an offer on one particular home over another.

• Add value to customer experience
  The more information you have at your disposal, the more value you provide the customer. With an Energy Fit Homes certified property, you can share exactly how the house will provide greater comfort and less cost to the homeowners.

• Support property value
  Green-certified homes sold for 8.5% more per square foot than their uncertified counterparts (USA Today, 2012). With Energy Fit Homes, you have one more tool to explain why a home is valued at its listed price.

HOW TO QUALIFY

1. Schedule a home assessment
   During the home assessment, an auditor will conduct an on-site inspection, evaluating the performance and efficiency of five main areas of the home:
   • Heating system
   • Insulation and air sealing
   • Windows
   • Lighting
   • Ventilation and combustion safety
   The cost of the home assessment varies by city. Homeowners can contact us for more information.

2. Complete any necessary upgrades
   At the home assessment, the auditor will provide a list of upgrades necessary to achieve an Energy Fit Homes certificate.

3. Prepare your application
   After all recommended upgrades have been completed, the homeowner submits an application along with any required documentation. An Energy Fit Homes certificate will be rewarded upon verification.

RESOURCES

• Materials that describe the benefits of the certification to potential homebuyers (perfect for home showings).

• Home assessment coupons for your clients so they can better understand their home’s energy use and get started with the certification process.

• Low interest financing for homeowners available through the Lending Center at CEE.

• Group presentations are available to further explain Energy Fit Homes.