



Rebates available to replace electric furnace with heat pump

Members whose existing homes are heated by an electric furnace can take advantage of a special offer from Sumter EMC running from February 1 - June 30, 2012. Sumter EMC will offer a \$400/ton rebate to any qualifying member who changes out an electric furnace to a high-efficiency heat pump which has a SEER rating of 13 or higher.

An energy-efficient heat pump works year-round, heating your home in the winter, cooling it in the summer...saving you money in all seasons. To determine if you qualify for the rebate program, ***Sumter EMC will first need to inspect your existing heating system before any new work is done. Once all upgrades are completed, Sumter EMC will need to inspect your new heating system.***

There are a limited number of rebates available, and they will be awarded on a

first-come, first-served basis. The total rebate per member cannot exceed \$1,000. The rebate program will end on June 30, 2012 or when the budget limitation for the program is reached, whichever occurs first.

Members contemplating participation in the program should contact Sumter EMC to determine if a rebate is indeed available before taking action to replace his/her furnace.

Call Sumter EMC today for additional details on qualifying for an electric heat pump rebate and to learn more about how an electric heat pump can work for you.



What to ask your HVAC contractor:

- Will they perform a heat-gain/heat-loss calculation to properly size the new unit?
- Will they inspect your existing ductwork and correct any problems?
- Will the joints of the ductwork be sealed with UL-181 tape or mastic?
- Do they offer a guarantee? If so, what are the details?
- Do they explain what parts and labor the warranty covers and for how long?
- Do they provide 24-hour emergency service?
- Are their employees NATE certified (North American Technician Excellence)? NATE technicians are skilled professionals, certified by a third party.

Why choose an electric heat pump:

- Heat pumps offer an operating cost well below the cost of an electric furnace.
- The electric heat pump is the safest and cleanest alternative available.
- Heating with a heat pump is the most efficient way to heat.

Replace portable space heaters

Many people turn to space heaters as a convenient source of warmth in winter months. However, space heaters can be dangerous if not used properly. If you're using an electric space heater you bought before 1991, it's time to replace it. Newer space heaters include safety features like tip-over switches that help prevent fires.

No matter how old your portable electric heaters are, take these precautions:

- Place heaters on the floor rather than propping them up on furniture, where they can fall.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet from flammable items such as curtains, furniture, or bedspreads.
- Select a space heater with a guard around the heating element.
- Fit the heater's plug snugly into the outlet. A loose plug can overheat.
- Don't hide cords under carpets or place anything on top of the cord; this can cause the cord to overheat.
- When buying a heater, choose one that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing institution such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- Buy a heater that can handle the area you want to heat.
- Keep heaters out of moist places like bathrooms unless you buy one that is specifically designed for that purpose. Moisture can corrode heater parts, and that can lead to fires and shocks.
- Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- Never leave a space heater unattended, and never go to sleep with a space heater on.
- Never attempt to repair a broken heater yourself. Buy a new one or take the broken unit to a professional repair shop.

Light up your nightlife with an outdoor light from Sumter EMC, and get it free for the next three months! Just apply for a new outdoor light installation and agree to keep the outdoor light for at least 12 months after the free period. We will install your new outdoor light within ten working days and pay for the first three months of service!

After three months of free service you will pay a small monthly charge that covers all electricity used by the light and all routine maintenance and bulb replacement.

Fees for decorative fixtures, special installations, underground service, and line extensions are not part of this promotion.



BUILDER REBATES

Sumter EMC offers a \$300 rebate to builders and individuals who buy \$1,000 in appliances from Sumter EMC and build new total-electric homes that are served by Sumter EMC.



Call for details and be sure to ask about our Free Water Heater program, too!



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Caulk all cracks and gaps around your home including spaces around wires for telephone, electrical, cable, and gas lines, water spigots, and dryer vents. Find more ways to save at TogetherWeSave.com.

Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

**Protect your family with a Sumter EMC Weather Radio!
Early warning is your best defense against storms and weather hazards.**



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