

## ShopSmart CHECKLIST

Follow these easy steps when purchasing and installing a water heater for your home.

- Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/WH](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/WH) for available rebates and eligibility requirements before purchasing new equipment.
- Choose a tank size that will efficiently meet your household's hot water needs.
- Install your new system in a place where it is easily accessible and can be maintained.
- Make sure your water heater is properly vented.
- Insulate at least the first 15 feet of your hot water pipes.
- Talk to your installer about the maintenance requirements of your new water heating equipment. Have your installer show you how to perform maintenance tasks.
- Consider having a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® assessment conducted on your home to identify additional possible savings. Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/HP](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/HP) for details.



## WARMAdvantage Program

This program is offered through *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* and provides incentives toward the purchase of qualifying high efficiency water heaters. Make sure that your water heater meets the minimum requirements listed on [NJCleanEnergy.com/WH](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/WH). Check with your utility company regarding additional incentives that may be available.



This program is offered through NJCEP and provides incentives towards the purchase of qualifying gas or solar high efficiency water heaters.

For additional information:  
Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/WH](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/WH)  
Call 866-NJSMART



*New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* is a statewide program administered by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities that promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy for all New Jersey ratepayers, including residences, businesses, schools and municipalities. For more information please visit: [NJCleanEnergy.com](http://NJCleanEnergy.com).

*New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* does not endorse any contractors.  
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## WARMAdvantage



## Water Heating Equipment

Your guide to buying a high efficiency water heater

Shop smart with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and its *Clean Energy Program*™

## WATER HEATING EQUIPMENT

### MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOUR HOME, YOUR FAMILY AND THE ENVIRONMENT IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK.

In emergency situations, water heaters are replaced in haste based solely on storage tank size. Many times homeowners purchase the same size tank as the previous unit. By preparing yourself with some basic information, you will be able to make an informed decision regarding the best water heater for your home.

#### 1. Energy Efficiency

All water heaters have an Energy Factor (EF) rating. The EF measures how efficiently your water heater burns gas. Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/WH](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/WH) to ensure you choose a system with the proper energy factor to be eligible for a rebate.

#### 2. First-Hour Rating (FHR)

The FHR measures how much hot water the unit will deliver during a high-demand hour. Your installer can help you calculate the appropriate FHR to meet your household needs.

#### 3. Equipment Capacity

An oversized water heater wastes energy when not in use. Make sure your installer helps you choose a system sized to meet your family's needs.

## INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

As with any home appliance, proper installation and care of your new water heater will maximize the benefits you'll enjoy.

- Consider choosing a North American Technician Excellence (NATE) certified contractor or a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor. Visit the Eastern Heating and Cooling Council's website at [eh-cc.org](http://eh-cc.org) for a current list of NATE certified contractors or [NJCleanEnergy.com/HP](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/HP) for a list of BPI certified contractors.
- Like home heating systems, a water heater should be properly vented. New vertical, horizontal and mechanically generated venting options allow more flexibility when choosing the unit size and location. Ask your contractor to check the venting of your water heater.
- Because sediment from the water can collect in the bottom of the water heater, one bucketful of water should be drained from the bottom of the tank once a month. Ask your installer to demonstrate how this task should be performed.
- Check for leaks around the fittings. If you suspect leakage, contact a licensed plumber to have the leaks sealed.



## WARMAvantage PROGRAM



An ENERGY STAR® qualified solar water heating system can cut your annual hot water costs in half, and is generally designed for use with an electric or gas back-up water heater. These systems can substantially reduce your carbon footprint. Your first step is to determine if your house is suitable for a solar water heater. For maximum results, your roof should:

- Receive direct sunlight between the hours of 10 AM and 4 PM year round;
- Face south (within 15°); and
- Be sturdy with the shingles in good condition.

You will then want to contact a local solar water heater contractor, who can assess your site, provide recommendations, install a system and then perform periodic maintenance.

Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com/SWH](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/SWH) for a list of solar water heater contractors.