

# WHAT IS A HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENT?

A home energy assessment, also known as an energy audit, is a way to test your home for health, safety, and energy efficiency — and improve your comfort indoors. Rather than focusing on a single part of your home, such as insulation, windows, or heating/cooling equipment, a certified home energy professional is trained to treat your home as a complete system of interconnected parts.

## WHY DO I NEED ONE?

A home performance professional can pinpoint the most cost effective improvements to both increase the comfort of your home and save you money on utility bills. To ensure that homeowners have the information necessary to make a well-informed home improvement decision, the **St. Louis County SAVES™** program recommends that participants have an energy assessment completed prior to deciding on a specific project.



## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Each of the companies participating has staff trained in building science and certified to test your home using tools such as blower doors to test for air leakage and infrared cameras to identify poor wall insulation. The cost of an energy audit, which is typically just a few hundred dollars and tax deductible, usually pays for itself with reduced utility costs after the recommendations are implemented.

## ANOTHER BENEFIT!

Energy improvements are generally tax deductible:  
<http://dnr.mo.gov/energy/residential/homeenergyaudits.htm>  
[http://dor.mo.gov/forms/MO-HEA\\_2011.pdf](http://dor.mo.gov/forms/MO-HEA_2011.pdf)

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY SAVES™**  
*Sustainable and Verifiable Energy Savings*