



**874-8200**  
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## **ENERGY STAR®** **Home Rating Service**



City Utilities is offering an ENERGY STAR Home Rating Service to customers who want an objective, standardized assessment of their home's energy performance. This service is performed by a certified Home Energy Rating System (HERS) professional who will perform diagnostic testing to determine the energy efficiency of the home.

# A Green Home Begins with ENERGY STAR® Blue

City Utilities is offering an ENERGY STAR Home Rating Service to customers who want an objective, standardized assessment of their home's energy performance. This service is performed by a certified Home Energy Rating System (HERS) professional who will compare a home's energy performance to a standard measurement of energy efficiency.

This service is for both new and existing energy-efficient homes. Homebuilders and existing homeowners use the rating to verify the increased energy performance of their home, to qualify for an energy-efficient mortgage, and to receive the ENERGY STAR label as an added value to the home.

ENERGY STAR qualified homes must meet strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These homes are at least 15% more energy-efficient than homes built to the 2004 International Residential Code (IRC), and include additional energy-saving features that typically make them 20–30% more efficient than standard homes.

The ENERGY STAR Home Energy Rating Service is performed for a fee of \$350. This cost includes two thorough on-site inspections of a home by a certified HERS energy rater. The home energy rater inspects the home's energy loads, such as:

- ✓ Insulation levels
- ✓ Window efficiency
- ✓ Wall-to-window ratios
- ✓ Heating and cooling system efficiency
- ✓ Water heating system efficiency
- ✓ Number of ENERGY STAR qualified lights and appliances
- ✓ Infiltration measurement
- ✓ Duct performance

*(Each additional inspection will be completed for \$100 per visit.)*

The rater performs a blower door test to compute the amount of air filtration the home allows and a pressure test on the ductwork. All of the data collected by the rater is entered into an accredited building simulation software tool to calculate the overall energy efficiency of the home. The home will receive a score between 0 and 500. An existing, "typical" home rating is around 150 and a rating of 100 is a home built to minimum efficiency standards. To qualify for an ENERGY STAR home, a home must score 85 or below on the HERS Index.

Any home three stories or less can earn the ENERGY STAR label, including: single family, attached, and low-rise multi-family homes; manufactured homes; systems-built homes (e.g., SIP, ICF, or modular construction); log homes, concrete homes; and even existing retrofitted homes.

**To request this service or for additional information, contact City Utilities at 874-8200.**

## HERS Index

