

# HEAT PUMPS – GROUND-SOURCE

Space heating accounts for about 60 per cent of the energy used in the average Canadian home. If your home is electrically heated, you can reduce your heating costs by up to 50 per cent by installing a ground-source heat pump.

Ground-source heat pumps, also known as geothermal heat pumps, use the earth, groundwater or both to heat your home in the winter and cool it in the summer. Geothermal pumps are more effective at heating homes during Canadian winters than air-source pumps. You may need an additional heat source to meet peak needs.

Ground-source heat pumps yield 40 per cent more cost savings, on average, than air-source pumps because underground temperatures are higher in winter than air temperatures. As a result, ground-source heat pumps can provide more heat in the winter than an air-source pump.



# HEAT PUMPS: GROUND-SOURCE



## WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- There are two important energy efficiency ratings: the Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF) indicates its efficiency in the winter, and the Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) indicates efficiency in the summer. In both cases the higher the number, the higher the efficiency.



## THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Pair the heat pump with a smart thermostat, to better manage energy use.
- For installation, hire a professional heating and cooling technician who can determine the proper size and product for your home and climate.
- Geothermal heat pumps have a life expectancy of about 20 to 25 years. Cleaning the filters and coils monthly can significantly improve performance and lifespan.
- Service your pump at the end of the summer, before the next heating season.
- Consider financing your home energy improvements through the City of Toronto's Home Energy Loan Program (HELP).
- Consider getting an EnerGuide Energy Efficiency Home Evaluation to help you understand how your home uses energy and identify all improvement opportunities.
- Check with your municipality, utility or retailer to see if rebates are available.



## COST:

\$20,000 - \$40,000, including installation.

For more tips, tools & resources to make your home more energy efficient, visit: [www.betterhomesto.ca](http://www.betterhomesto.ca)

