

# Overview for Homeowners

## ENERGY STAR® for New Homes

### Looking for a new home? Look for the blue ENERGY STAR.

BGE's ENERGY STAR for New Homes Program encourages energy-efficient construction so you can save green and live green in your new home. To earn the ENERGY STAR, a home must meet strict guidelines for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These homes are at least 15% more energy efficient than homes built to Maryland's building code.

#### The ENERGY STAR Difference

ENERGY STAR certified homes can include a variety of tried-and-true, energy-efficient features that contribute to improved home quality and homeowner comfort, while lowering energy demand and air pollution:

- Effective Insulation
- High-Performance Windows
- Tight Construction and Ducts
- Efficient Heating and Cooling Equipment
- Efficient Appliances and Other Products
- Third-Party Verification

#### Lower Ownership Costs

Compared with standard homes, ENERGY STAR certified homes use substantially less energy—saving hundreds in utility costs annually and thousands over the years you live in your home, plus substantial savings on maintenance.

#### Improved Performance and Comfort

Properly installed energy efficiency improvements deliver better protection against cold, heat, drafts, moisture, pollution and noise. An energy-efficient home helps ensure consistent temperatures between rooms, better indoor air quality and greater durability.

#### Peace of Mind

Find the home of your dreams and enjoy peace of mind knowing that it meets the strict energy efficiency requirements of the government-backed ENERGY STAR label.

#### Environmental Responsibility

Did you know that your home can be a greater source of pollution than your car? In fact, 17% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions are generated from the energy used in houses. Simply put, the less energy we use in our homes, the less air pollution we generate.

#### Find an ENERGY STAR Builder

Visit [BGESmartEnergy.com](http://BGESmartEnergy.com) for a list of builders participating in the BGE ENERGY STAR for New Homes Program.

Call toll-free **877.685.7377** or email [residentialnewhomes@BGESmartEnergy.com](mailto:residentialnewhomes@BGESmartEnergy.com).

Visit [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) for more information about the EPA ENERGY STAR for New Homes Program.

