

The Value of Building Energy Codes for Michigan Residents

Energy codes define the minimum requirements for the building envelope (insulation, windows and air sealing), mechanical equipment, and lighting in terms of energy efficiency/conservation for new construction or major renovations.

Michigan has adopted the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code with state-specific amendments as the Michigan Energy Code for residential buildings. This includes single-family homes, duplexes, townhomes, and multifamily buildings under 4 stories.

How do energy codes benefit Michigan homeowners and renters?

Lower Energy Costs

Building energy efficiency reduces the energy demand of residential buildings, enabling homeowners and renters to save on their energy bills and make homes more affordable for the lifetime of the building.

Resilience

Building envelope requirements in the energy code enable buildings to maintain safe indoor temperatures for longer periods of time, allowing residents to shelter in place for longer periods during extreme weather events.

Improved Comfort

Efficient building envelopes stemming from insulation and air sealing requirements in the energy code allow homes greater control of indoor temperatures and humidity, resulting in a more comfortable residence.

Job Creation

The energy efficiency sector supports more than 85,000 jobs in Michigan alone, and of these jobs, 22% are in the construction industry, making it a significant source of employment for Michiganders.

Healthier Indoor Environments

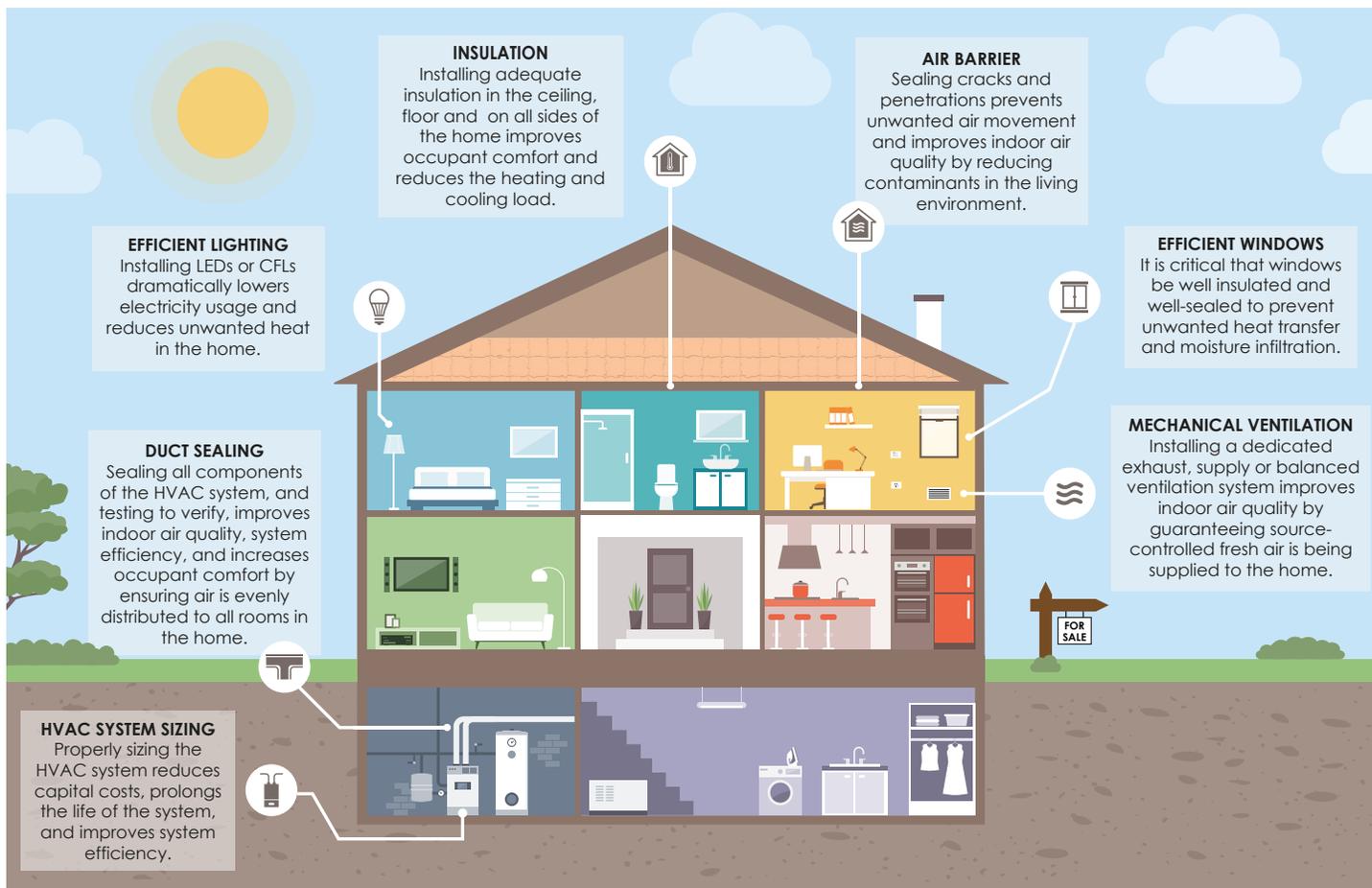
Air sealing and mechanical ventilation requirements in the energy code ensure homes are getting appropriate amounts of fresh air from a controlled source. This reduces the concentration of indoor air pollutants and prevents the build up of mold in the home.

Consumer Protection

Building energy codes ensure that homes are built with a quality building envelope, locking in key efficiency and health improvements for years to come.

Energy Efficiency in Your Home

Below are some examples of energy efficiency measures you can find in your home. While each individual measure has an impact on the energy use of houses and apartments, these measures work as a system to make your home healthier, more comfortable, and energy efficient.



Efficient Homes and Resale Value

In addition to creating healthier and more comfortable living environments, studies have shown that energy efficient homes also have a higher resale value than their less-efficient counterparts. Because energy efficient appliances, windows, and home ratings are among the top features buyers look for in a new home, efficient homes often sell quicker and for a higher price. Studies have also found that owners of energy efficient homes are less likely to default on their mortgage payments, making them a safer investment for buyers and lenders.

Developed in collaboration with



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