

Ways to Improve Your Home Energy Efficiency

Kaya Williams, SMENP Program Coordinator, SMPDC

Melanie Nash, Sustainability & Resilience Senior Planner, SMPDC



OCTOBER 2026

SMPDC and Ogunquit

Types of Assistance

Regional Coordinator - Maine Office of Community Affairs

- SMPDC helps to support CRP-enrolled communities like Ogunquit with resilience projects.

Direct Sustainability Support

- SMPDC is contracted directly by the town to provide support to committees, grant writing and management, and technical assistance.

WAYS WE SUPPORT



Technical
Support



Grant Admin.
Support



Community
Engagement
Facilitation



Template &
resource
development



Project Scoping



Grant Writing

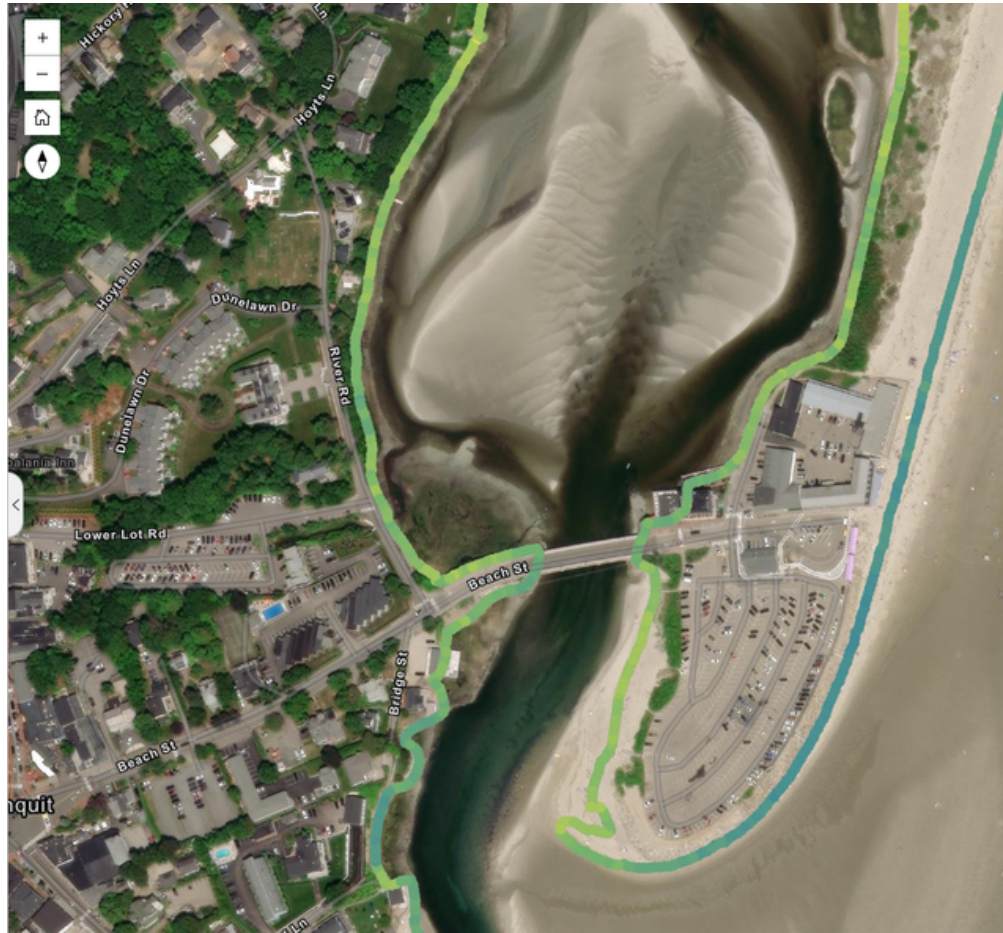


Inter-
Community
Coordination



Consultant
Procurement

Project Examples



Nature-Based Strategies at the Main Beach Parking Lot

Used an engineering site assessment and community engagement to develop conceptual designs and an implementation plan for nature-based strategies at the Main Beach parking lot.



Main Beach Dune Restoration

Sand scraping, dune repairs, and planting of native vegetation to help the dunes recover from storm damage and protect against future damage.



Design and Implementation of NBS – Stormwater and Plantings

Stormwater filtration and native plantings for a NBS demonstration project on the river side of the Main Beach parking lot area. Partnered with the Watershed Committee.

Stay in Touch

Contact Melanie Nash or
Mandy Cummings
regarding SMPDC's
Sustainability and
Resilience work with
Ogunquit!

Melanie Nash
Sustainability & Resilience Senior Planner
mnash@smpdc.org
https://smpdc.org/sustainability_resilience

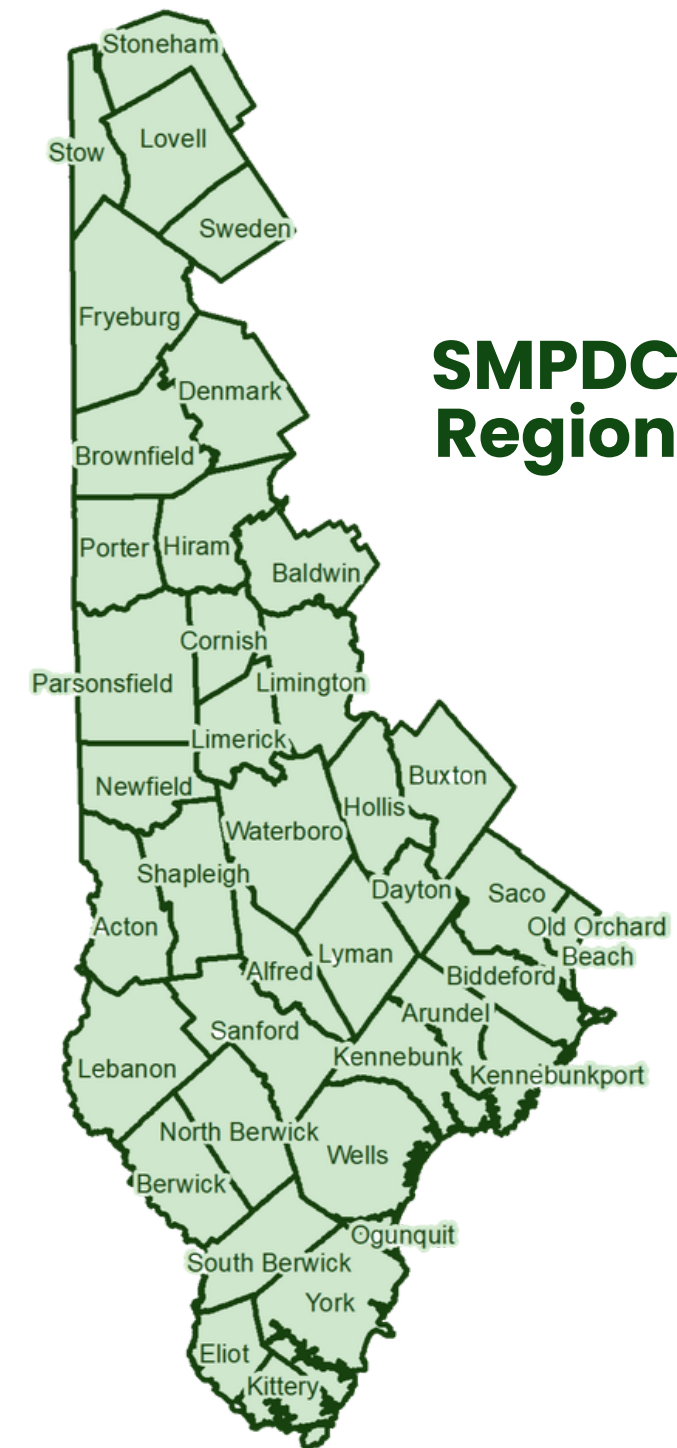
Mandy Cummings
Treasurer/Assistant Town Manager
treasurer@ogunquit.gov
Phone: 207-646-5139

Southern Maine Energy Navigator

Types of Assistance

For eligible homeowners in **Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Kittery, Ogunquit, and Wells**, we provide **financial assistance** for heat pump installations, air sealing, and insulation work.

For homeowners, landlords, and renters in the entire **SMPDC region**, we offer **guidance on home energy upgrades**.



Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

DIY Projects

Weatherization

Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar



Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

Home energy audits provide an overview of your home's energy efficiency. They outline how much energy your home uses, where it wastes energy, and what improvements are needed.

DIY Projects

Weatherization

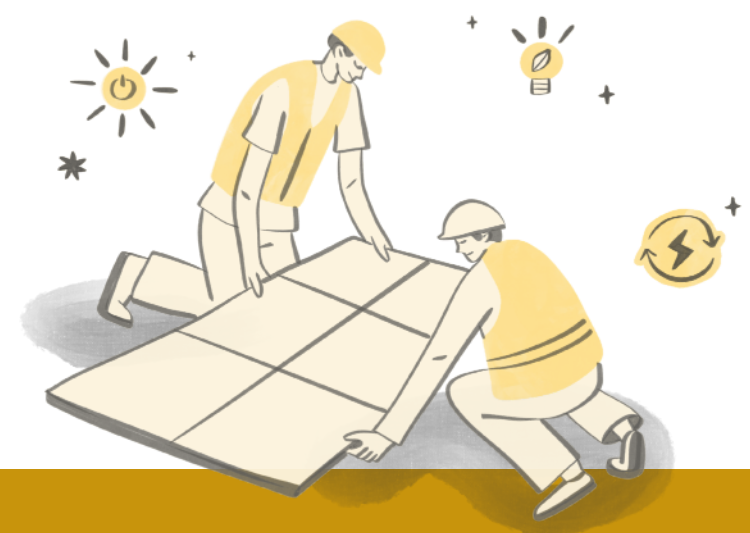
Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar

1. The **audit**, completed by a certified energy auditor, who will visit your home, conduct tests to detect air leaks, and inspect insulation, windows, doors, and HVAC systems.

2. The **report**, which provides specific recommendations for energy-saving upgrades and improvements tailored to your home.



Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

DIY Projects

Weatherization

Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar

DIY projects can help address low-hanging fruit, while you determine larger steps make sense to take, a few ideas include:

- Set thermostat to **55–60°** for the off season
- Install **smart systems**
 - Monitoring system, such as low temperature freeze sensors
 - Programmable thermostat
 - Smart plugs
- **Seal drafts**
 - For exmple, caulking around drafty windows
- **Insulation**
 - For example wrap pipping



Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

DIY Projects

Weatherization

Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar

Weatherization protects a building from unwanted heat loss or gain. Common approaches include insulation, air sealing, and replacing drafty windows

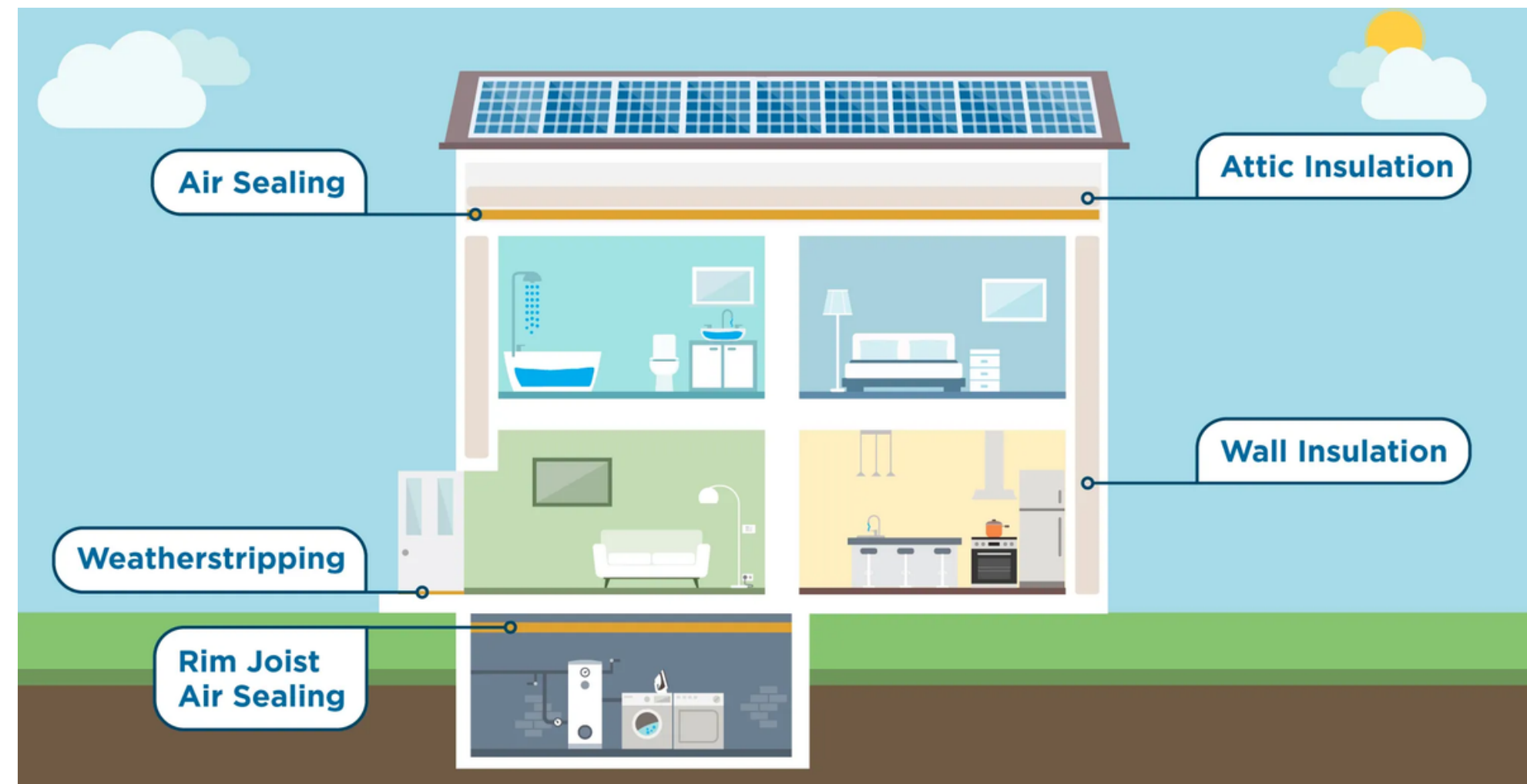


Diagram from Massachusetts Clean Energy Center

Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

DIY Projects

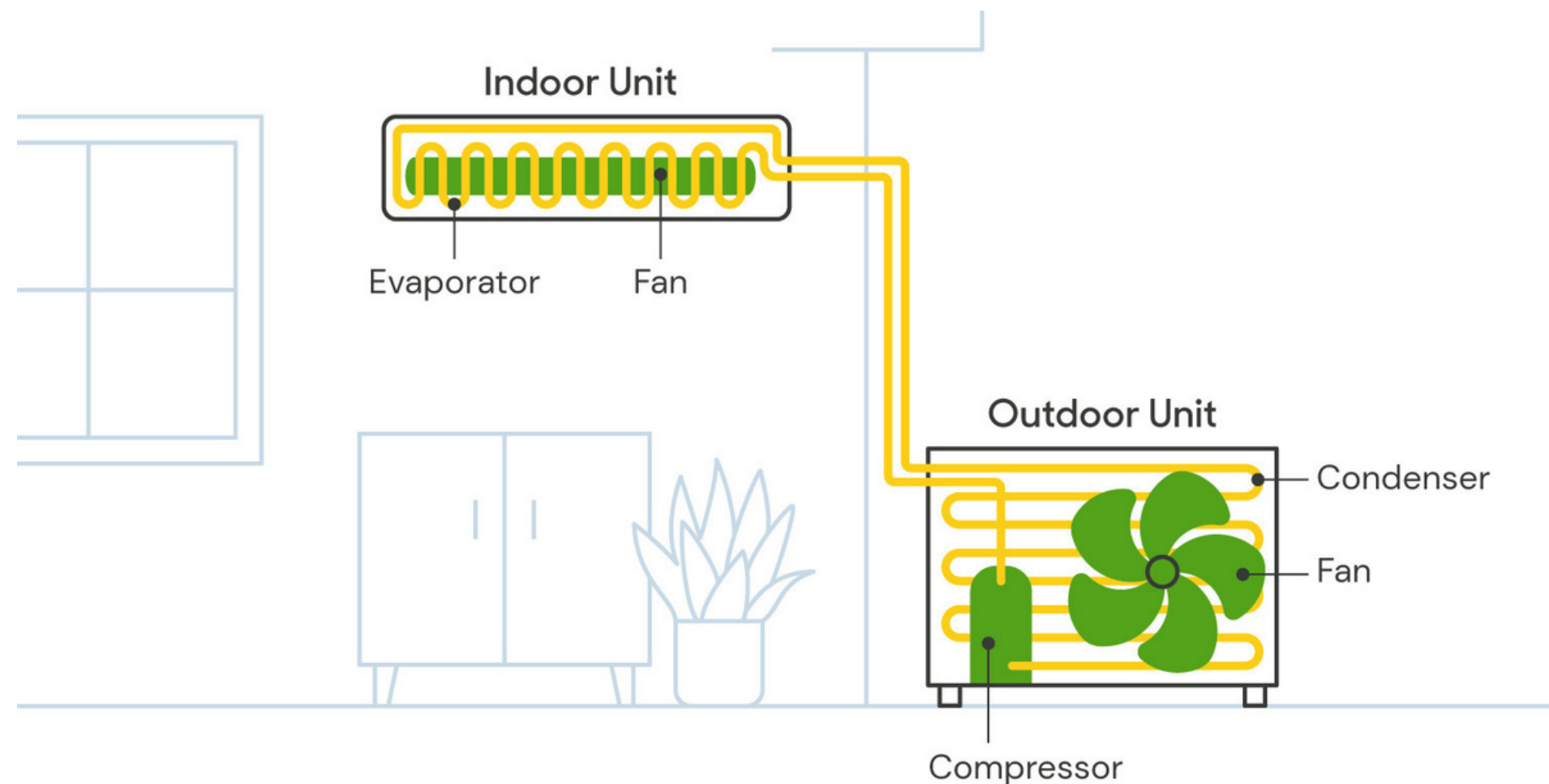
Weatherization

Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar

Air source heat pumps work similarly to a refrigerator. They absorb heat from the outside air into a refrigerant, even when temperatures are below freezing, and then transfer that heat indoors to warm your home or water.



Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

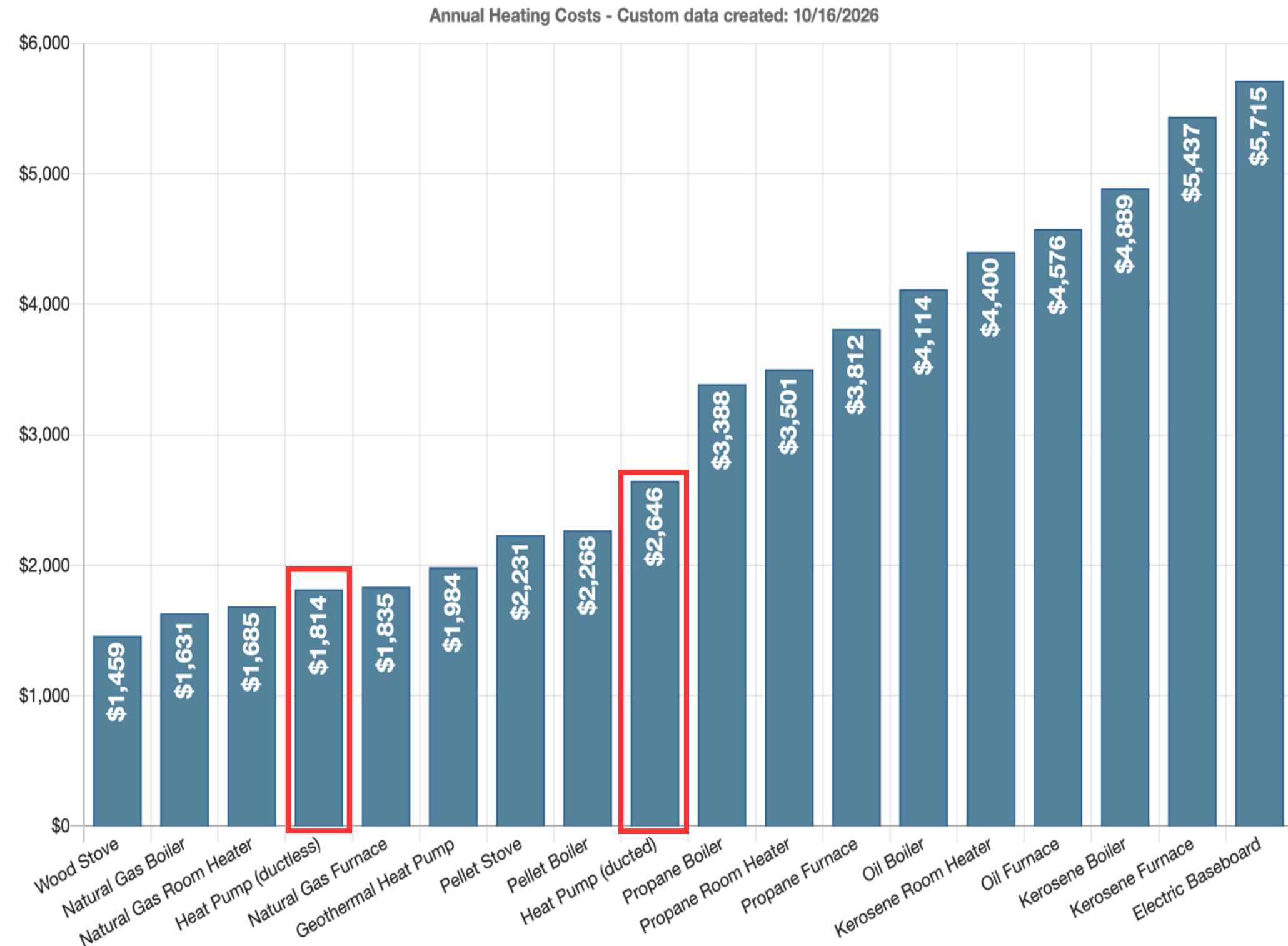
DIY Projects

Weatherization

Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar



Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

DIY Projects

Weatherization

Heat Pumps

Electric Vehicles

Solar

Plug-In Hybrid (PHEV)

- PHEVs have an **electric motor and an internal combustion engine**, letting drivers switch between them.
- PHEVs have a **longer overall driving range** because they can run on gasoline.

Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)

- BEVs run **solely on battery packs** that power electric motors. They don't have a backup gas engine like PHEVs, so when the battery is depleted, they can't keep driving without recharging.
 - However, they have a **much higher electric range** than PHEVs.

Energy Upgrades

Steps

Energy Audit

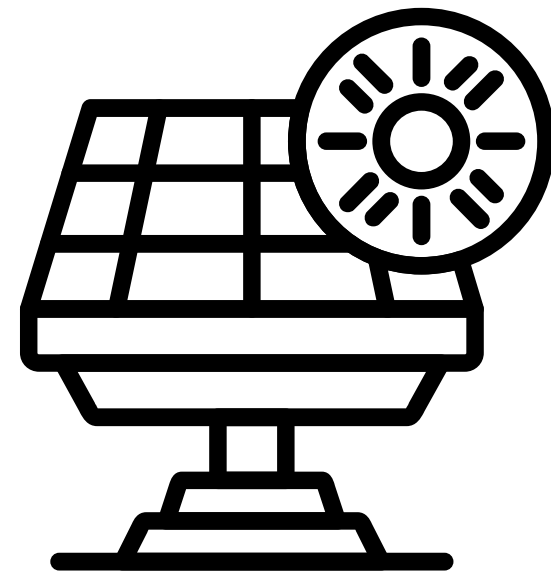
DIY Projects

Weatherization

Heat Pumps

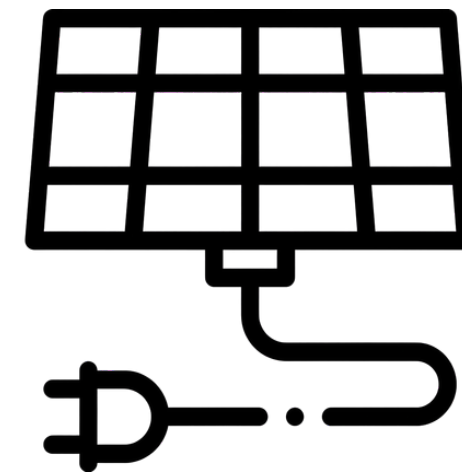
Electric Vehicles

Solar



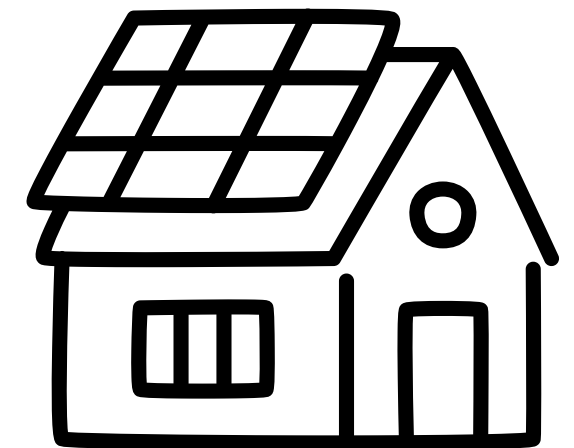
Community Solar

Shared solar array that users can receive credits from to lower electricity costs.



Plug In Solar

A small-scale solar system that can be plugged directly into the property to offset some electricity use.



Residential Solar

Solar system that is installed at the owner's property, either on the roof or in the yard. Typically covers the majority of energy usage.

Final Thoughts

Program Website

energynavigatorme.org

Program Email

navigator@energynavigatorme.org

Program Phone

(207) 250-2484

