Residential Actions Checklist

The following is a checklist of all the Residential Actions you could take to help Vermont move toward our goal of 90% renewable energy usage by the year 2050. Every little bit counts!

### Heat

#### Saved Heat

- Total Energy
  - [ ] reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by 10% over the past year
  - [ ] reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by 15% over the past year
  - [ ] reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by more than 20% over the past year

- Weatherization Talk w/ a Home Energy Expert
  - [ ] got a walk-through assessment or energy audit of home
  - [ ] undertook comprehensive energy improvements of home

- Weatherization Do-It-Yourself (DIY)
  - [ ] turned down thermostat in winter or turned off or raised thermostat on AC in the summer
  - [ ] caulked windows and other gaps along window frames
  - [ ] changed the filter(s) in the furnace every 3-4 months
  - [ ] installed outlet/switch-plate foam gaskets and outlet safety plugs
  - [ ] weatherstripped doors
  - [ ] made sure that cold air returns for forced-air system are free from blockages
  - [ ] made sure window sash locks are working and locked (in winter)
  - [ ] sealed up the fireplace chimney
  - [ ] sealed window AC unit(s).
  - [ ] sealed ductwork in the attic and uninsulated crawlspaces
  - [ ] added storm windows and doors
  - [ ] reduced use of space heaters
  - [ ] caulked all windows and other gaps along window frames through weatherstripping
Weatherization DIY (Advanced)
- air sealed and insulated an attic
- insulated and weatherized the basement door(s)
- insulated the box sills and rim joists in a basement
- sealed up and insulated attic hatch
- installed a programmable thermostat(s)
- replaced single pane windows with ENERGY STAR Vermont climate-certified windows

Heat Equipment Upgrades & Improvements
- got a tune-up on the boiler or furnace
- installed a cold climate heat pump(s) to displace fuel heating needs
- installed a faucet aerator and/or water flow regulator
- installed an ENERGY STAR high efficiency boiler
- replaced a furnace/boiler with an energy efficient ENERGY STAR qualifying model
- replaced traditional range with induction range cookers (Food Sales)
- switched to a high efficiency biomass (e.g. pellet) furnace or boiler
- added an efficient wood stove insert to fireplace
- installed a programmable thermostat(s)

Hot Water Efficiency
- installed shower heads that use 1.5 gallons/minute or less
- set water heaters to proper temperatures
- installed a heat pump water heater
- insulated pipes from the hot water heater
- turned hot water down to 120 degrees F
- installed an indirect circulation solar hot water heater
- installed an ENERGY STAR on-demand hot water heater
- reduced time in hot shower and/or installed timers in shower

Became a Net Zero Home!
- became a Net Zero home!

Generated Heat

Heat Pumps/HVAC
- installed cold climate heat pumps ("mini-splits") for heating/cooling
- installed water source heat pump
- installed a whole home cold climate heat pump system
☐ installed a ground source geothermal heat pump

Efficient Wood Heat
☐ installed an efficient wood pellet stove
☐ installed an efficient wood stove
☐ added an efficient wood stove insert to fireplace
☐ installed an efficient standalone woodstove

Hot Water Heaters
☐ installed a high efficiency gas hot water heater
☐ installed an ENERGY STAR heat pump water heaters
☐ installed a heat pump water heater
☐ installed an indirect circulation solar hot water heater
☐ installed an ENERGY STAR on-demand hot water heater

Passive Solar
☐ installed shading for summer months to avoid overheating
☐ installed thermal mass where a constant temperature is desired
☐ installed unobstructed windows within 30 degrees of true south

Compost Heat
☐ generated heat from compost
**Electricity**

**Saved Electricity**

- **Total Energy**
  - Reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by 10% over the past year
  - Reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by 15% over the past year
  - Reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by more than 20% over the past year

- **Became a Net Zero Home!**
  - Became a Net Zero home!

- **Lighting**
  - Eliminated unnecessary exterior bulbs/lights
  - Eliminated unnecessary interior bulbs/lamps
  - Installed occupancy sensors/timers for lights
  - Replaced exterior bulbs with LEDs/efficient lights
  - Replaced indoor incandescent bulbs with LEDs/efficient lights

- **Electric Equipment Upgrade**
  - Got rid of an old freezer
  - Installed advanced power strips for electronics
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient air conditioner
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient ceiling fan
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient computer or monitor
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient dehumidifier
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient dishwasher
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient pool pump
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient refrigerator or freezer
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient TV and/or sound systems
  - Installed an ENERGY STAR efficient washer/dryer
  - Installed an energy-efficient cold climate heat pump for AC/heat
  - Installed a programmable thermostat(s)

- **No/Low-Cost Actions**
  - Closed shades/curtains during heat of day in summer
  - Dries clothes on clotheslines
  - Eliminated unnecessary appliances and equipment
eliminated unnecessary appliances and equipment
- joined my local energy committee
- participated in Button Up Vermont!
- regularly turns off electronics when not in use
- regularly turns off lights when not in use
- regularly turns off power strips when not in use
- set dehumidifier at 60%
- signed up for GMPs "Empower" rate program to reduce electricity costs
- turned down thermostat in winter or turned off or raised thermostat on AC in the summer
- unplugged or removed second refrigerator or freezer
- used fans for cooling rather than A/C
- uses power strips to turn off multiple electronic equipment simultaneously
- increased efficiency of freezer by relocating it away from a heated location
- reduced use of space heaters

**Generated Electricity**

### Solar Energy
- sourced 90-100% of electricity use through solar energy
- joined a Community Solar Array (CSA)/Group-Net Metered system as a member
- joined a Community-Owned Solar Array (CSA) as an owner of panels
- installed a ground-mounted solar array
- installed a roof-mounted solar array
- installed a solar carport or canopy
- installed a solar tracker
- leased land for a solar array
- installed a Powerwall or another solar storage system

### Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Energy
- installed/joined a Combined Heat and Power system

### Wind Energy
- installed a wind turbine

### Hydropower Energy
- installed a project to generate hydropower
Reduced fuel use

Total Energy

- reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by 10% over the past year
- reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by 15% over the past year
- reduced total energy consumption (heat, electricity, transportation) by more than 20% over the past year

Efficient Driving Behavior

- drove slower to conserve fuel
- encouraged students to take the bus, bike or walk to school
- ensured all tires are properly inflated to increase mpg
- reduced car trips by combining errands
- started a trip diary to increase awareness of my vehicle usage
- stopped idling vehicle(s)

Efficient Vehicle(s)

- bought an electric bicycle to replace local car trips
- leased/bought a hybrid car
- leased/bought a plug-in hybrid
- leased/bought an electric vehicle (EV)
- traded in vehicle for a higher MPG model
- uses biofuel in vehicle(s)
- Became a one car household

Public Transit

- regularly uses public transportation

Transportation Infrastructure

- installed an electric vehicle charging station at home

Carpool or Carshare

- encouraged kids to carpool to school and after-school activities
- joined a carshare program
- regularly carpools (non work)
- regularly carpools to work

Bike/Walk
- regularly bikes or walks for local trips
- uses an electric assist bicycle for local transportation needs

Air Travel
- reduced total number of work or personal airplane trips per year