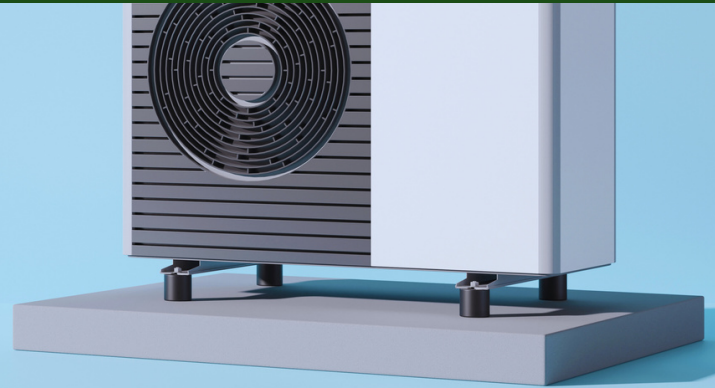




National Capital Presbytery Earth Care Network

HEAT PUMPS



A heat pump can be a big improvement to your house, to raise efficiency and avoid burning fossil gas. It can replace water heating, AC, and furnace. For those who are curious, here is how it works.

You will want to match a system to your current house, grounds, and budget. Heat pumps work quite well in our climate when properly set. Take care to find a provider who knows the many current options. Even well-known appliance services may be uninformed and give you bad advice. (Dominion and other power companies maintain a directory of expert providers.)

You will typically want to make the switch when your current water heater and or AC+furnace is aging, but don't wait for an emergency since acquiring the right system and installing it often takes time. If you have an obsolete electrical panel, that might also need an upgrade.

Beyond the significant environmental benefits, you may also save money, but it's complicated: Heat pumps cost more than either a furnace, AC, or water heater, but combine replacement of these items and you often come out ahead, even if you have been using cheap gas. The equipment lasts 20 years or longer. While Federal incentives end in 2025, there are many lesser-known subsidies from power and technology companies and from state and local government.

A heat pump is variable-speed and quiet, not blasting on and off, and you often have more control over heat in different rooms. It's cosy! Check it out and don't just replace your obsolete equipment!

