

Houses can now use the earth for heating and cooling

Did you ever think you could actually heat and cool your home using the ground beneath your own backyard? And save money doing so? A new electric technology called a geothermal (or ground source) heat pump uses solar energy absorbed by the ground for low cost heating and cooling. You can save up to 60% on heating costs and to 30% on cooling costs, according to the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), representing America electric utilities.

What makes a geothermal heat pump so efficient? It transfers heat instead of creating it. Instead of using an outdoor compressor like other systems, it exchanges heat with the earth via underground plastic piping. Installation costs more than other systems, but the energy savings will pay you back the difference in three to five years.

Ground source heat pumps

save energy and save on electric bills," said Tom Farkas, EEI's Manager of Residential Programs. "They provide benefits that other heating and cooling systems can't."

Major geothermal heat pump benefits include:

- Savings on operating costs. You get up to \$4.00 in heating or cooling from each dollar of electricity.
- Heating and cooling from a single unit. And, they require no more maintenance than traditional heating and cooling systems.

■ Year-round hot water, with some systems. During the air conditioning mode, the hot water is free, since the system takes the house's heat and puts it into the water heating tank.

■ Durability, since the units are housed indoors. They last longer than conventional systems because they are protected from harsh outdoor weather.

■ Quiet operation. Ground source heat pumps have no exposed,

noisy outdoor compressors. They operate quietly to satisfy your needs without disturbing you — or your neighbors.

■ Environmental efficiency. Geothermal heat pumps use the earth as a natural energy source — a heat source in winter and a heat sink in summer. Compared to other systems, they work less to exchange energy into and out of the house.

■ Rebates upon installation. Since ground source heat pumps

have high energy efficiency ratings, many electric utilities offer their customers rebates upon installation.

These environmentally friendly heat pumps also return a more even year-round demand on utility power plants. This helps defer the need for building more power plants.

For more information about geothermal heat pumps, call your electric utility's residential marketing department.

Showcase of DISTINCTIVE Homes

Showcase of Distinctive Homes is a scattered site showcase of new homes throughout Southeastern Michigan. Homes are built by Professional Master Builder members of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan.

Sponsored by



The Normandy
Price of model as shown \$253,900 Plus Tax
Other models starting from \$239,900 Plus Tax

Features:

- Outstanding stone veneer, gable and bay windows on a way of life
- Three-car garage (separate living area for family and entertaining)
- Two-story foyer with circular staircase and matching wooden case
- Master bedroom with private entrance, bay window and vaulted ceiling
- Master bath with platform whirlpool tub
- Three full bathrooms, including a full bathroom with 12 foot ceiling, master's privacy
- Three car garage, 9 foot basement with finished lower level, central heat system and 99% UV protective windows
- Excludes 1995 Model Energy Code

Square Feet: 3,472
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 2 1/2

Westshore Contracting
Company phone: 313/993-0044
Model phone: 313/993-0044

Winwood
Price of model as shown \$132,900
Other models starting from \$129,900

Features:

- Duplex condominium in secluded setting
- Master bedroom with walk-in closet
- Full basement
- Two car attached garage
- Fully equipped kitchen, granite and hardwood
- Low monthly association dues
- Walk to beach and shopping

Square Feet: 1,500
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 1 1/2

Winwood Construction Corp.
Company phone: 810/647-8511 • Model phone: 810/649-3370

Birchwood II
Price of model as shown \$177,900
Other models starting from \$164,900

Features:

- Great Openings!
- Clarkson area's newest community
- Beautifully wooded homesites in prime Clarkson location. Nice view to appreciate
- Easy to live, detached condominiums
- Finished basement and walk-out level available
- Walking distance to restaurants, stores and downtown
- 2 bedroom ranch, 1 1/2 story and 2 story plans also available
- Quick occupancy homes
- Fertilized models
- Open daily 12 - 4 (Closed Thursday)

Square Feet: 1,515
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2

Wineman & Komer Building Company
Company phone: 810/358-9050 • Model phone: 810/628-3217

Cambridge
Price of model as shown \$257,900
Other models starting from \$233,900

Features:

- One-story Entry foyer opens to a Great Room that features a dramatic vaulted ceiling
- The gourmet kitchen is a chef's dream with granite, stainless steel and custom cabinetry
- For added privacy, the second floor master suite features a private entrance, walk-in closet, and a separate dressing room
- Expansive walk-out deck, as well as wooded views, are available
- Walk to brand new elementary school, just a block away!

Square Feet: 2,844
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 2 1/2

Monogram Homes, Inc.
Model phone: 810/369-3088

The Chelsea
Price of model as shown \$214,900
Other models starting from \$213,900

Features:

- You won't find a better new home value in Farmington Hills!
- Two-story foyer with curved stairway
- Cathedral ceilings in formal living room and dining room
- Secluded library
- Island kitchen with breakfast nook
- Large family room with fireplace
- Master suite with master's closet
- Great family neighborhood with all the advantages!

Square Feet: 2,400
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2 1/2

A Nossan Community
Model phone: 810/485-4540

Wilton II
Price of model as shown \$219,900
Other models starting from \$185,900

Features:

- Existing new family community in West Bloomfield
- Unique plans with two front doors - one formal entry plus one for the family
- Huge mud room and first floor laundry
- Two story foyer
- Formal living room and dining room
- Island kitchen with breakfast nook
- Large family room with fireplace
- Elongated "split-level" master suite with walk-in closets and bathroom
- 3 large children's bedrooms
- West Bloomfield's best value

Square Feet: 2,650
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 2 1/2

A Nossan/Silverman Community
Model phone: 810/363-4610

Colonial 3005
Price of model as shown \$149,900 (Limited Offer)
Other models starting from \$134,900

Who ever said you that you can't afford a new home here's a chance to own a Colonial 3005 Community home. We will provide ourselves on building the best home for your money in Metro Detroit, just like we did when we started back in 1945. So before you make the most important investment of your life, please take a ride out to our community and compare square foot to square foot. Thank You.

Square Feet: 1,800
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2 1/2

Company phone: 810/339-3253 • Model phone: 810/666-5024
Prices subject to change without notice

Whitney
Price of model as shown \$214,900
Other models starting from \$184,900

Features:

- Traditional Colonial with dramatic carriage and soaring ceilings. Warm family room with elegant fireplace
- Luxurious master suite with ceramic tile deck, separate shower and generous walk-in closet

Square Feet: 2,470
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2 1/2

Phoenix Land Development Corporation
Company phone: 810/631-9900 • Model phone: 810/476-5028

The Andover
Homes starting from \$250,000

Features:

- Two-story foyer
- Hardwood floors on the first floor
- Hardwood flooring features
- In-law apartment
- Walk-out deck
- Three-car side entry garage

Square Feet: 3,400
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 3 1/2

Singh Homes, Ltd.
Company phone: 810/433-1100 • Model phone: 810/380-8833

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