



HEAT YOUR WATER SAVE A LITTLE GREEN



Building a new home? Purchasing a water heater? Choose carefully. For three reasons, water heaters fueled by efficient, clean-burning natural gas are a better choice than those fueled with electricity.

Dollars and sense: Save energy and money

Natural gas is a better, more cost-effective fuel than electricity for heating your home, cooking your food, and heating your water. Refer to the chart below to see how much you could save by choosing a natural gas water heater versus electric.

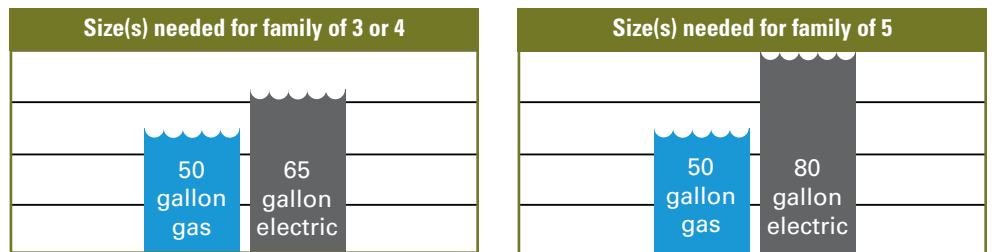
Operating cost comparison: Save by choosing natural gas		
Usage	Electric water heater (.93 EF)	Natural gas water heater (.62 EF)
Equivalent annual energy output in Btu*	14,561,200	14,561,200
Annual energy input in kWh or CCF	4,588	235
Annual operating costs**	\$457	\$254
Annual savings with a natural gas water heater = 44% or \$203		

* Using equivalent Btu output requirements for comparable residential natural gas or electric water heater.

** Using 2-year average residential gas price of \$1.08 per CCF in Louisiana as of January 2009 and 2-year average residential retail electricity price of \$0.0995 per kWh in Louisiana as reported in December 2008 EIA-Electric Power Monthly.

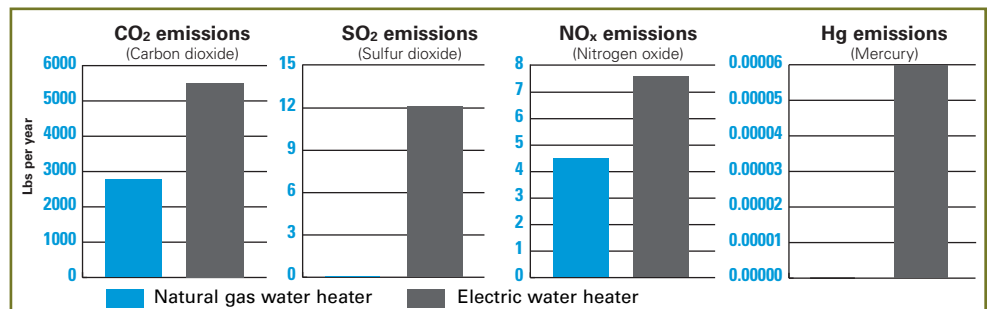
Say "no" to running out of hot water: Fast recovery

Recovery is the time it takes a water heater to refill and make hot water available. Because natural gas water heaters recover twice as fast as electric models, be sure to compare realistically when you are shopping. If you find that a 50-gallon natural gas water heater will meet your needs, remember that a 50-gallon electric model will not be able to do the same job. You will almost always need a larger electric model to account for recovery needs during peak times, such as in the morning when many family members take showers. For example:



Go green: Environmental benefits

When you choose a natural gas water heater, you are choosing the most efficient and clean-burning fuel to heat your water. The charts below illustrate that natural gas water heaters are much more environmentally friendly. See left for more environmental information.



Sources: Louisiana 2004 State Average Emissions: eGRID - April 2007 and August 2000 AGA Report: "Source Energy and Emissions Factors for Residential Energy Consumption."

Natural gas burns cleaner than electricity, releasing:

- Less carbon dioxide (a major greenhouse gas)
- Less sulfur dioxide (a major cause of acid rain and haze)
- Less nitrogen oxides (the primary cause of smog)
- Zero mercury emissions (makes some fish unsafe to eat)

Electric water heaters rely on the generation of electricity at a power plant, which may be burning coal, lignite, or other fossil fuels.

These fuels do not burn as cleanly as natural gas and are a major source of the nation's carbon dioxide emissions – the major contributor to global warming.

1-877-OPT-4GAS

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