



SOAK UP THE BENEFITS OF NATURAL GAS WATER HEATERS



When you choose natural gas water heaters, you're making a wise decision for greater cost-savings, the environment and comfort.

Lower operating costs

Natural gas is simply a better value – even when considering the operating costs. The chart below illustrates the cost difference between a comparable natural gas and electric water heater.

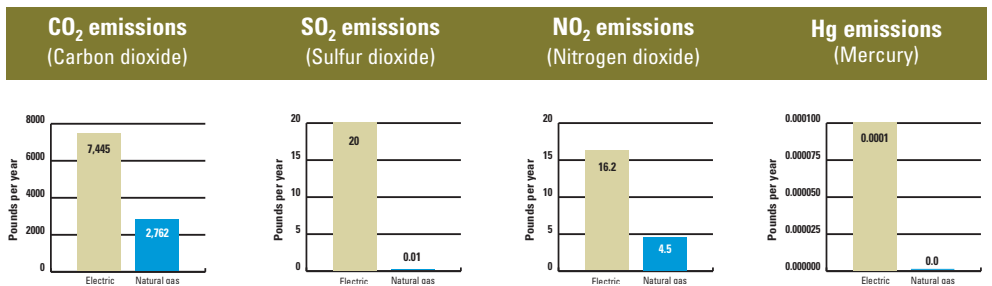
Operating cost comparisons: Save by choosing natural gas		
Usage	Electric water heater (.91 EF)	Natural gas water heater (.62 EF)
Equivalent annual energy output in Btu	14,561,200	14,561,200
Annual energy input in kWh or Therms	4,688	235
Annual operating costs*	\$426.61	\$249.10
Annual savings with a natural gas water heater = 42% or \$178		

*Using a three-year average residential gas price of \$1.06 per therm in CenterPoint Energy territory as of November 2008, and a three-year average residential electricity price in Minnesota of \$0.091 per kWh as of November 2008.
Note: Your savings are even greater with the current gas price of \$0.60/Therm, April 2009.

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. Natural gas burns cleaner than electricity, releasing:

- Significantly less carbon dioxide (a major greenhouse gas)
- Almost no sulfur dioxide (a key cause of acid rain and haze)
- Less than one-third the amount of nitrogen oxides (the primary cause of smog)
- Zero mercury emissions (a common cause of contamination in fish)



• Electric emissions: Minnesota 2004 State Average Emissions; EPA eGrid, Analysis, April 2007.
• Gas emissions: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – AP42 Emission Factors, 1995.

Say “no” to running out of hot water: Fast recovery

Natural gas water heaters recover twice as fast as electric models to refill and make hot water available. If you find that a 50-gallon natural gas water heater will meet your needs, remember that you will almost always need an 80-gallon electric model to account for the same recovery needs during peak times, such as in the morning when many family members take showers.

Use our Home Energy Costs and Emissions Calculator to see how your budget and the environment benefit from using natural gas versus electric water heaters. You'll also see a cost and emission comparison for a standard natural gas water heater versus a high-efficiency model.

Visit CenterPointEnergy.com/gasisbetter for your personal calculations, energy-saving ideas and other helpful information on the benefits of natural gas.

Questions?
Call 612-372-4727 (1-800-245-2377)
Log onto: CenterPointEnergy.com