



PRESS RELEASE

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EnergyWiseSM Tip: Indoor Air Quality

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During Nebraska winters, most of the energy used in homes and businesses keeps the interior warm. As we improve the energy efficiency of existing homes and businesses by adding insulation, sealing up air leakage or implementing ways to reduce heating to where and when needed, we often create indoor air quality (IAQ) concerns.

At the same time, more new homes are constructed with nearly-airtight building envelopes that create their own air issues if not managed.

If you find yourself unfamiliar with Nebraska's major IAQ concerns, review information at the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Service's Indoor Air Quality Program (link: http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/enh_indoor.aspx).

Major IAQ issues in our state include:

Radon Carbon Monoxide
Biologicals & Airborne illnesses
Volatile Organic Compounds
Particulates

Often, IAQ solutions can be costly when considering the purchase, installation and ongoing energy use. While some solutions require increased energy use, others provide savings after small to medium-cost improvements. Some are as simple and inexpensive as changing your heating system's air filter or caulking around areas where outside air is infiltrating. Others may require optimizing or replacing your current heating system. Chances are, all IAQ solutions will impact ongoing heating and/or air-conditioning costs.

Usually, long term solutions are better than quick remedies for IAQ problems. Before weighing costly improvements and intensive efforts to improve indoor air quality, reduce heating costs or to achieve incredible energy savings, contact your local electric utility or visit www.nppd.com.

They can provide unbiased perspectives on many efficiency opportunities. In addition, you may find you are eligible for EnergyWiseSM incentives to help with the cost of energy-saving improvements.

For additional information on how to make your home, business or school EnergyWiseSM, contact Loup Power District, Cornhusker Public Power District, Nebraska Public Power District, or your local public power utility. While you're at it, check out the EnergyWiseSM programs designed to help you save money. Find energy efficiency information online at www.loup.com, www.cornhusker-power.com, and www.nppd.com/save-energy.

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