



## **Air Sealing: Savings and comfort all around the house**

Have you ever considered how much money you could save by sealing up openings and gaps around your home? If you haven't looked into air sealing your home, it's likely that the air you're paying to heat and cool is escaping without you knowing!

### **What is air sealing?**

Air sealing is simply the process of locating and addressing your home's air leaks. By understanding how much air is entering and leaving your home, you'll have a better idea of how much energy (and money) you could save through better air sealing. You're probably familiar with air seeping out of (and into) your house around windows and doors. The biggest offenders of conditioned air leakage, however, are sources you may not have considered, like attic top plates – the upper horizontal framing lumber of a stud wall.

Older homes are likely to have more air leaks than newer homes, but no matter its age, this is an important step in saving money and wasting less energy.

During the air sealing process, a professional analyzes your home to identify the primary culprits: attic entrances, top plates, recessed lights, electrical and plumbing openings, and deteriorated or missing weatherstripping around windows and doors.

During the air sealing process, professionals will use special equipment, like a blower door, to determine where and how much air is leaking from your home. Armed with this knowledge, you'll be ready to do something about it.

### **Why air sealing is worth every penny**

#### *Cost Savings*

As a homeowner, you're paying to heat and cool all of your air, whether it stays in your house or not. Taking steps to ensure your home is properly sealed means you'll see cost-savings year-round.

### *Comfort*

Sealing your home against air leaks keeps heated and cooled air *inside* of your house instead of letting it slip out. Because of this, you can enjoy comfortably regulated temperatures in your house no matter the season.

### *Safety/Health*

Air sealing gives you the confidence of knowing that your home is tightly secured against the elements, keeping dust and pollen out. It may also improve the quality of air in your home by keeping more of your conditioned air in.

### **Let's talk about rebates!**

We offer a rebate of 50% of the cost up to \$300 for air sealing costs as a part of our Home Energy Improvement Program. This means you can save money in the long run while earning a rebate now!

To earn the rebate, this air sealing project must be completed by a professional and requires a professionally conducted test-in and test-out completed by a Home Energy Improvement Program participating program contractor to verify a 20% reduction in your home's air leakage. This ensures that you get the results you want from your improvement.

### **What are the considerations?**

Bear in mind that changes to your energy consumption (e.g., more people moving in or a significant increase in heating and cooling) may affect your actual savings.

### **Before You Start**

#### **Becoming familiar with these terms can help as you consider this upgrade:**

- *Air Sealing* – Filling holes, cracks, or gaps where air can leak in or out of a house, saving energy and improving indoor air quality.
- *Blower Door Test* – A professionally conducted test measuring the air tightness of your home to reveal air leaks.
- *Building Envelope* – The elements that make up the exterior of your home: walls, roof, and foundation – including doors and windows.
- *Indoor Air Quality* – Measurement of the air within the home including humidity, temperature, and gases within the air itself.

### **Get started today**

- [The Georgia Power Home Energy Improvement Program](#)
- [Home energy assessment article](#)
- [Contact a professional](#)