



## Duct Sealing: comfort and savings that are out of sight

You may not spend much time thinking about your air ducts, but they could be the key to saving money on your home energy costs. Sealing up leaky ducts could not only decrease your energy bills, but also increase the comfort of your home year-round.

### What is duct sealing?

Duct sealing is the process of locating and addressing any air leakage taking place in your duct system. Your home's duct system is an interconnected network of tubes that transfer heated or cooled air throughout your house. Just like leaky plumbing, leaky ducts mean that you're losing valuable resources that you've already paid for. By having a professional test your system for leaks, you can identify leaks and determine whether duct sealing is a worthwhile improvement for your home.

During the duct-sealing process, a professional will analyze your home and identify any issues. They will conduct a pressure test to check for duct leakage throughout your home using special equipment. Since ducts are usually in hard-to-reach places and leaks are often hidden by insulation, hiring a professional is essential. Completing this process tells you where air is leaking, how much air you're losing, and what you can do about it.

### Why duct sealing is worth every penny

#### *Cost Savings*

Sealing your ducts will save you money. The EPA estimates that [20-30% of your home's conditioned air is lost due to leaks](#). As a homeowner, you pay for this air whether it stays in your house or not. Sealing your ducts could also improve the efficiency of your HVAC unit, helping your system work better and last longer. And as a bonus, energy efficiency is good for the planet.

#### *Comfort*

Sealing your home against leaky ducts saves you money, and it can also help keep the temperatures in your home comfortably regulated no matter the season. If you notice hot and cold areas in your home, this improvement may help.

### *Safety/Health*

Sealing your ducts may improve your air quality by no longer pulling in air from the attic or crawlspace. You can breathe easier knowing that duct sealing can reduce the presence of outdoor allergens in your home.

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

We offer a rebate of 50% of the cost up to \$300 for duct sealing expenses as a part of our Home Energy Improvement Program. This means you save money in the long run while earning a rebate. If you have multiple systems in your home, you can receive up to two rebates per year – that's \$600 – one rebate for each system with qualifying improvements!

To earn the rebate, this project requires a test-in and test-out process to verify the required 30% reduction of leakage in your heating and air system ductwork. This can be done by a professional duct and envelope tightness (DET) verifier or a participating program contractor. Also, it only applies if the ducts are in unconditioned spaces like attics and crawlspaces.

### **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 usage) may affect your actual savings.

### **Before You Start**

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

- *Building Envelope* – The elements that make up the exterior of your home: walls, roof, and foundation – including doors and windows.
- *Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) Verifier* – A certified professional capable of diagnostically testing leakage in a building envelope and duct system, and making improvement recommendations.
- *Duct Sealing* – Keeping your heated and cooled air moving to the spaces you use in your home and stopping unwanted airflow out of the ducts.
- *Ductwork* – A network of tubes that delivers conditioned air from your HVAC unit throughout the building.
- *Indoor Air Quality* – Measurements 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](#)