

More on REAL's new Heat Pump Advisory Service

This service might be right for you if you're thinking about installing a heat pump in your home and if you currently heat with a centrally-ducted furnace/air handler.

Most air source heat pump installations are undersized and cannot supply the whole heating load for the house. Sometimes heat pumps can cause problems like noise in the ductwork. A heat pump needs to be sized as close as possible to the heat load of the house and to the capacity of the duct system. This maximises energy savings while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



Our heat pump advisory service builds on your EnerGuide evaluation and adds:

- CSA F280 Heat Loss/Heat Gain calculations, which determines the amount of heating and cooling your home needs to optimize comfort.
- Duct flow measurement using specialized TrueFlow metering equipment, to determine which heat pump system will be compatible with your current ductwork. This information will allow your contractor to size the heat pump to the actual heat loss of the house and the air flow capacity of the duct system.
- Electrical panel capacity assessment, to understand if it is likely that an electrical panel upgrade will be required when switching to a heat pump.

Canada Greener Homes Grant

An EnerGuide energy evaluation audit also enables you to apply for a Canada Greener Homes zero interest loan. This loan offers interest-free financing to help Canadians make their homes more energy efficient and comfortable.



The basic steps are

- Have an EnerGuide pre-retrofit energy evaluation audit
- Apply for the Greener Homes Loan
- Complete the energy saving retrofits
- Get a post-retrofit EnerGuide audit to confirm your upgrades

Note that any retrofits started before submitting your loan application are ineligible.

Loans are a minimum of \$5,000, maximum of \$40,000, and must be repaid within 10 years, interest free.

Book an Assessment Today

REAL does home energy assessments in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville and Frontenac Counties, specifically in the K0G, K7A, K7C, K7H, K6T, K6V and parts of KOH, KOE and KOA postal code regions.

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Home Energy Assessments and Heat Pump Advisory Service



From your local environmental organization



**RIDEAU
ENVIRONMENTAL
ACTION LEAGUE**

**Reduce your energy bills
and take climate action!**

What is a Home Energy Assessment?

The EnerGuide Rating System is Canada's home efficiency rating tool that assesses the energy performance of your home and how you can make it more energy efficient and lower your greenhouse gas emissions. Whether you're planning small fixes or major renovations, an EnerGuide home evaluation helps you decide which upgrades can save you the most on energy bills and make your home more comfortable.

Why Choose REAL?

REAL has no conflict of interest and provides unbiased solutions that are founded on building science, testing and an expert assessment of what is *really* needed to make your home more efficient. Alan Leonard has decades of experience diagnosing energy problems in homes and extensive experience solving all sorts of issues in houses dating from the 1800's to the present.

REAL has been active in Smiths Falls and area since 1989.



Services Available

Full Home Energy Audit – \$500

The audit is a thorough assessment of all the characteristics of your house that affect energy use. It takes several hours to measure and collect all the information needed and to do testing like the blower door/air tightness test and infrared thermography. After the visit, calculations and computer modeling are done and a comprehensive report is prepared. This will tell you where energy is used and which retrofits/upgrades will be the most effective to reduce energy

Heat Pump Advisory Service with an EnerGuide Audit – \$550

This is a new service being offered. It will help you choose the most effective Air Source Heat Pump system. We are able to offer this additional service combined with an EnerGuide audit for this low price because we have received some funding from Green Communities Canada (GCC) for the pilot program.

Post Retrofit Audit –\$250

After the renovations to your home are made, we can return to assess the changes and update the energy efficiency rating of the house. We will do another blower door/air leakage test, record all changes and update the performance model of the house. A new EnerGuide energy efficiency rating label will be issued which is valuable if you wish to sell the house and prove the change in its efficiency. Many incentive grant programs, including the Canada Greener Homes Loan require both a pre-retrofit and a post-retrofit audit to qualify.

No HST is charged on these prices .

Retrofit Planning

Your home energy evaluation will provide recommendations for how to most effectively reduce your energy costs.

First, upgrade the thermal envelope.

65% of the energy used at home is for space heating. Improving the thermal envelope will improve home comfort and indoor air quality and reduce your energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions. Measures like improving insulation (attic, roof, sloped ceiling, wall, exposed floor, basement and crawlspace), draftproofing, and window and door replacement should be considered.

Second, upgrade the mechanicals.

When heating, cooling and hot water equipment needs replacing, heat pumps will dramatically reduce the amount of energy need. Consider whether an air source heat pump, a ground source heat pumps, a heat pump hot water heater, or a drainwater heat recovery systems are right for your home.



Third, add renewable energy.

Adding solar panels and storage batteries will enable you to supply most or all the remaining energy needs.