



BENTON RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

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Dear Member,

A properly insulated and sealed house not only will keep the warmth in during the winter and the heat out during the summer. It will ease the burden put on your heating and cooling system to keep a comfortable temperature in your home.

Insulation

Adding insulation to your attic, floors and walls can save you both energy and money in the life of your home. Calculate your rebate by multiplying the square footage of the insulated space by the appropriate rebate amount according to this table.

| Insulation Location | Starting Insulation Level | Final Insulation Level | Rebate Amount Per Square Foot |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Attic | ≤ R7 | ≥ R38 | \$2.00 |
| Attic | R8-R11 | ≥ R38 | \$0.75 |
| Attic | R12-R19 | ≥ R38 | \$0.30 |
| Attic | R20-R30 | ≥ R38 | \$0.09 |
| Floors | ≤ R11 | R19 | \$0.75 |
| Floors | ≤ R11 | R25 or R30 | \$0.90 |
| Walls | R0 | ≥ R11 | \$2.00 |

As you can see, insulation incentives are higher where the amount of insulation added is greater. Yes, there are energy savings that occur from taking an R-25 attic up to R-40 but they are really quite modest. The significant savings come from addressing areas that are very poorly insulated in terms of the depth of the insulation or very uneven due to poor installation.

To ensure this work will lead to significant energy savings Benton REA must inspect the existing insulation before and after the insulation is installed. Inspections are free of charge to Benton REA members.

Air-Sealing

Having a well-insulated home is much of the battle, but if the home is drafty, you still won't be comfortable, and you will lose a lot of conditioned air that you have paid for through leaks. New homes address this with an inspection to confirm that all penetrations through the "envelope" of the home have been sealed. If your home is more than 25 or so years old, it is possible that it is susceptible to considerable air "infiltration" and may feel drafty. It isn't very easy to get at the most critical problem areas without gaining access to the floors from below and the attics from above so, in many cases, this would most likely (should) occur during a major remodel.

Incentives for whole-home air sealing are based on the reduction of the air volume moving in and out of the home – this is measured in cubic feet per minute (CFM) and determined through a blower door test before and after air-sealing. Benton REA will pay a rebate of \$0.20/CFM to your air-sealing contractor.

You may contact me for a list of qualified contractors. If your contractor isn't on the list, then have them talk to me about becoming a participant in our rebate program.

To start saving energy and receive your insulation rebate, contact me to setup a pre-inspection. Rebates will not be paid until a post-inspection is complete and I receive a copy of your invoice. Please reach out to me with any other questions you may have about Benton REA's insulation and air-sealing rebates.

Sincerely,

Eric Miller
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