

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY: THE HIGH-YIELDING REAL-ESTATE INVESTMENT THAT PAYS DIVIDENDS OF HEALTH AND COMFORT

By Mark Loscutoff, O-HEAT.com



Ever hear that a penny saved is a penny earned? If you own your home, a dollar invested in energy efficiency is an investment that can return 10% or better per year. A study conducted by UNO and OPPD found that the average household in the Morton Meadows neighborhood (just south of the University of Nebraska Medical Center) could expect to save \$500 per year by making modest energy efficiency improvements.\*

The study found that this rate of return could be attained with an investment of between \$500 and \$3000, for a simple payback period of one to six years. This equates to a return on investment of **17% to 100% per year!**

Try getting that from a bank, or even the stock market!

How can you make such an investment? The first step is to have your home audited by a RESNET-certified energy rater. The audit will provide the guidance necessary to make targeted, cost-effective home energy improvements. And if you need help doing the work, you should hire a contractor who is knowledgeable in residential energy efficiency issues.

A Certified Energy Rater can show you how to save money on utility bills while making your home healthier and more comfortable! And unlike many investments, this one is **TAX FREE!**

\*“...by air sealing, duct sealing and insulating (Improvement Scenario 1) the average Morton Meadows home has the potential to reduce energy use by 40%. These three improvements also have the potential to... save the average homeowner \$500 each year.” -Phase I Report: Morton Meadows Neighborhood Energy Savings Program by Daniel J. Lawse, University of Nebraska, July 2008.

