



COMMONWEALTH SUSTAINABILITY WORKS

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Energy Audits for the Foothills Housing Coalition

Pre-audit requirements:

- Energy use history: preferably at least two years of electric and gas (if applicable) use

The 3-4 hour on-site audit includes

- Visual inspection of air leaks, insulation, doors and windows, hvac system, water heating system, etc.
- Infrared analysis
- Combustion safety testing (if applicable) per [BPI protocol](#): gas leak detection; carbon monoxide leaks; draft, venting, and spillage of combustion appliances; and efficiency of combustion appliances
- Whole-house pressurization test (blower door): calculation of air changes per hour and minimum ventilation requirement and identification of air leak locations
- Duct tightness testing (if applicable)
- Homeowners are encouraged to accompany the auditor during the site visit.

The audit report includes

- Energy improvements listed according to anticipated cost-effectiveness
- Instructions and specifications for do-it-yourself improvements
- Test data and photos

Costs:

Walk-Through Energy Audit with infrared photography and blower door test – starting at \$350. The base fee covers houses of 2500 or fewer conditioned square feet (conditioned basements are counted). Add \$.10/sq foot for additional floor area beyond the 2500 mark.

Additional services as needed:

- Combustion Safety Testing – starting at \$75 for first appliance, \$25 for subsequent appliances. The \$75 base fee covers the first appliance to be tested and any cook stoves. Add \$25 for additional appliances.
- Duct Tightness Tests – starting at \$100. For houses with more than one duct system to be tested, add \$75 for each additional system.

Energy Modeling – The \$200 base fee covers houses of 2500 or fewer conditioned square feet (conditioned basements are counted). Add \$.10/sq foot for additional floor area beyond the 2500 mark. Using [software](#) approved by the US Dept. of Energy, we create a computer-based simulation that models the energy use of the house. After establishing the as-built or as-designed base case, I "test-drive" strategies such as upgrading windows, improving insulation, improving HVAC design, upgrading HVAC equipment, upgrading appliances, etc. With local utility rates programmed in, the software calculates the real dollar savings achieved by these options – helping homeowners and builders make the best decisions to lower the total cost of ownership.