

## WVPA Energy Star Clothes Washer Rebate FAQ

### **Why is WVPA offering this rebate?**

By offering a rebate on an Energy Star clothes washer to people with electric water heaters, water heater kWh consumption will be lowered because Energy Star clothes washers use less water than non-Energy Star clothes washers. They also spin clothes at higher speeds so that they are nearly dry at the end of the wash cycle thus reducing drying time. If WVPA can encourage people to use electricity more efficiently then they can better plan power supply. Also buying additional power or power plants can potentially be avoided.

### **Who is eligible for this rebate?**

- Residential customers with an electric water heater
- One rebate per member per address (limit of two)
  - For example if a member has both a primary residence and a lake house and is served by a co-op at both locations then they may have a rebate for each location
  - If they only have a vacation home located on co-op lines then only the vacation home address is eligible for the rebate

### **How do I know which clothes washers are qualified to be Energy Star?**

- Qualifying units will be:
  - As defined on the Energy Star website
    - [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=clotheswash.search\\_clotheswashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=clotheswash.search_clotheswashers)
  - [Learn about the ENERGY STAR criteria for Clothes Washers.](#)

### **Where can I buy an Energy Star clothes washer?**

Pretty much every place that sells clothes washers has Energy Star qualified models available.

### **How much is the rebate?**

It is \$50 by either check or bill credit from your local electric cooperative.

**How do I get the money?**

By filling out the rebate form and attaching a copy of the proof of purchase for the Energy Star clothes washer and also attaching a copy of the Energy Guide showing the Energy Star logo.

**How long will it take to get the money?**

Please allow us 6 to 8 weeks to process your rebate form and send your rebate.

**Is a copy of the proof of purchase ok?**

Yes, a copy of the proof of purchase is actually preferred. Please do not send us your original as we are unable to return it and you may need it for something else.

**Is a copy of the rebate application ok?**

No, we need to have the original form with your signature. Please keep a copy for your records.

**Is it ok if I fax the rebate forms & attachments to WVPA?**

No, co-ops should only mail the rebate forms and attachments, with the Energy Star Clothes Washer Summary Form, to WVPA. The address can be found on the summary form.

**When does this rebate start?**

April 15, 2010. Sorry, but units purchased prior to this date are not eligible for a rebate.

**Does the program have an end date?**

The end date of this program is November 15, 2010.

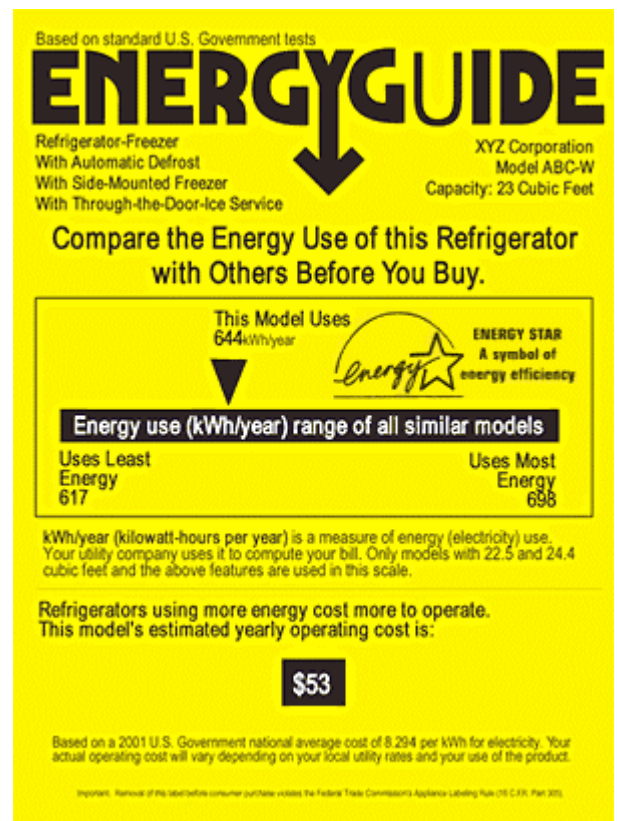
Offer subject to change without notice

## What is an Energy Guide?

This label estimates how much energy the appliance uses, compares energy use of similar products, and lists approximate annual operating costs. Your exact costs will depend on local utility rates and the type and source of your energy. All major home appliances must meet the Appliance Standards Program set by the US Department of Energy (DOE). Manufacturers must use standard test procedures developed by DOE to prove the energy use and efficiency of their products. Test results are printed on yellow EnergyGuide label, which manufacturers are required to display on many appliances.

## How To Read an Energy Guide

Energy Guide labels come in slightly different formats for different appliances, but they're all easy to understand. The information they contain will help you make the wisest purchase.



- On the left under the headline Energy Guide, the label describes the type of appliance it is - in this case, a refrigerator-freezer. It offers a brief description and the size - of this particular appliance.
- On the right it lists the manufacturer, the model numbers that fit this description and the capacity.
- In the box, the estimated amount of energy this model refrigerator will use in a year is spelled out - in this case, 644 kilowatt-hours a year.
- Below that is a line scale showing the range of energy use in models of comparable size and type. Of those refrigerators being compared, the scale shows the least amount of energy used - in this case, 617 kilowatt-hours - and the most amount of energy used - 698 kilowatt-hours. A caret points out where this particular appliance falls along the range of energy costs.
- A paragraph indicates the range of model sizes being compared.
- Finally, the label tells you how much you can expect to spend each year in electricity costs, given the estimated kilowatt-hours this refrigerator uses, and the suggested cost of electricity. It also assumes this refrigerator will be operated under normal conditions. (Running it in a closed, unventilated garage in the middle of the Mojave Desert in the summer will obviously run up your electric bill.)

The EnergyGuide label is a valuable tool for comparison - but beware of some limitations!

Our sample label compares a range of different refrigerators - in this case, models with a capacity between 16.5 and 18.4 cubic feet. That's a large range. If all refrigerators were equally efficient, the smallest size in that range would be at the low end of the scale, and the 18.4 capacity models would be at the high end. If you're trying to find the most efficient 18.4-cubic-foot refrigerator, **the bar scale may not accurately reflect a refrigerator's efficiency**. In a sense, you're comparing small apples with big oranges.

To make an intelligent choice, you should compare the energy use in kilowatt-hours of **all 18.4 cubic foot refrigerators**. Some will be more efficient than others. Don't just rely on where a model fits on the comparison scale - make sure you're comparing appliances of the same size.

Another word of caution - the ranges shown on the labels are not updated frequently, and manufacturers are constantly introducing more efficient appliances. As a result, it could be possible to find a model that is more efficient than the most efficient end of the range. In that case, the label may note that the efficiency of this particular model was not available at the time the range was published.

Information on EnergyGuide labels varies from appliance to appliance. The estimated cost maybe based on the average price of natural gas instead of electricity, for example. For room air conditioners, central air conditioners, heat pumps, furnaces and boilers, the range is not energy consumption, but rather, the energy efficiency ratings for these products ([EER](#), [SEER](#), [HSPF](#) & [SEER](#), and [AFUE](#) , respectively).

### **Where do I find the Energy Guide?**

Energy Guides are normally attached to the appliance or will come with the appliance. For clothes washers it is frequently found inside the wash tub.

### **Is a copy of the Energy Guide ok?**

Yes, a copy of the proof of purchase is actually preferred. Please do not send us your original as we are unable to return it and you may need it for something else.