



Dekalb County Clean Energy  
Transportation Transition Plan

Community Engagement Session 1

# Southface Institute

- **Nonprofit** delivering practical building and infrastructure solutions to environmental challenges since 1978
- **Eco-Office** with green roof in Atlanta
- New **Southface Sarasota** satellite location
- About **40 Southfacers** who have 50+ professional certifications total
- **Sustainable solutions** that work for everyone





# The partners



DeKalb County  
G E O R G I A



# Project tasks

1. Recommendations on addressing DeKalb's Clean Energy Goals
2. Recommendations on Energy Efficient methods to meet the County's Energy Needs

## How to transition to clean energy



Educate community & stakeholders



Collaborate with residents, businesses, & institutions



Set goals and track progress



Invest in solar energy & other renewable sources



Reduce energy use through efficiency upgrades



Reduce reliance on fossil fuels

### 3. Analysis of DeKalb County's municipal solar potential

●  
C H E R R Y  
— — — — —  
S T R E E T  
— — — — —  
E N E R G Y

# 4. Recommendations on Increasing Equity and addressing energy burden within the County

- Development of an energy equity map





## 4. Recommendations on Increasing Equity and addressing energy burden within the County

- Community Climate Champions



# 5. Public Stakeholder Inclusion for an Open, Inclusive, and Transparent Planning Process

- Creation of a website: [www.cleanenergydekalb.com](http://www.cleanenergydekalb.com)
- Monthly meetings
- Weekly working groups





## 5. Public Stakeholder Inclusion for an Open, Inclusive, and Transparent Planning Process

- Creation of a website: [www.cleanenergydekalb.com](http://www.cleanenergydekalb.com)
- Survey



## 6. Assistance in Development of a Clean Electricity and Vehicle Procurement Strategy



# 7. Creation, education and engagement of a DeKalb Climate Task Force





## 8. Development of Greenhouse Gas Inventory for County Govt facilities and fleet, and community county-wide



## **9. Development of clear benchmarks and milestones for the County during the transition to 100% clean and renewable energy and transportation**

- Develop scenarios
- Create access to a comprehensive Equity Mapping Platform
- Complete a correlational study of the underlying conditions of energy burden
- Develop a simplified forecasting model
- Project economic development and industry impacts

## 10. Development of a clear process whereby the County Commission will receive updates on progress and take steps to hit benchmarks





# 11. Deliver final draft transition plan report to the Chief Executive Officer & Board of Commissioners



DeKalb County  
G E O R G I A

## Mentimeter question

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Do you have any issues with your windows?

- No – I never open them
- Yes – Broken
- Yes – They waste energy
- Yes – I feel cold around them

## MYTH #1

Replace windows to save money



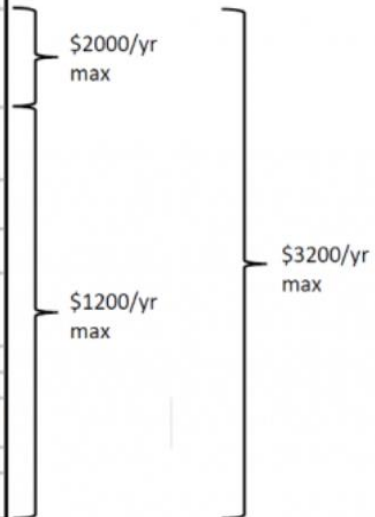


# Storm Windows

- Inside or Outside
- Noise
- Low-E
- Removable

Improvement	Cost
Replacing Window	\$1500 or \$300/window
Installing Storm Window	\$500 or \$100/Window
Adding on Tax Credit	-30% or -\$150 = \$350 or \$70/window

EQUIPMENT TYPE	TAX CREDIT AVAILABLE FOR 2023-2032 TAX YEARS
<b>Heating, Cooling, and Water Heating</b>	
Air-source heat pumps	30% of cost, up to \$2,000 per year
Heat pump water heaters	
Biomass stoves	
Efficient air conditioners	30% of cost, up to \$600
Efficient heating equipment	30% of cost, up to \$600
Efficient water heating equipment	
<b>Other Energy Efficiency Upgrades</b>	
Electric panel or circuit upgrades for new electric equipment	30% of cost, up to \$600
Insulation materials	30% of cost
Windows, including skylights	30% of cost, up to \$600
Exterior doors	30% of cost, up to \$500 for doors (up to \$250 each)
Home Energy Audits	30% of cost, up to \$150
Home Electric Vehicle Charger	30% of cost, up to \$1,000



Measures eligible for the Energy Efficient Home Improvement (25C) Credit. Adapted from the US Department of Energy.



## Mentimeter question

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Have you gotten calls trying to sell Solar Panels

Yes

No

## MYTH #2

Solar Energy is free







- 25D credits can be used for new and existing homes.

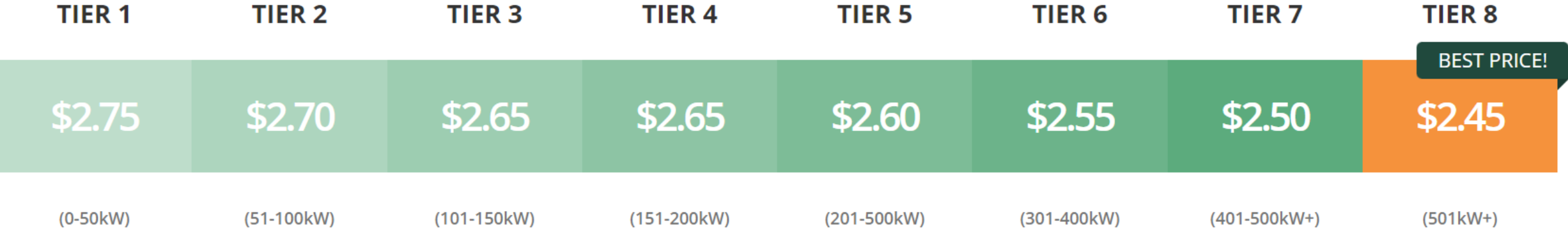
EQUIPMENT TYPE	TAX CREDIT AVAILABLE FOR 2023-2032 TAX YEARS
<b>Home Clean Electricity Products</b>	
Solar (electricity)	30% of cost
Fuel Cells	
Wind Turbine	
Battery Storage	
<b>Heating, Cooling, and Water Heating</b>	
Geothermal heat pumps	30% of cost
Solar (water heating)	

Measures eligible for the Residential Clean Energy (25D) Credit. Adapted from the US Department of Energy.

2020 Price per watt from Solarize Decatur DeKalb Campaign

# Residential Campaign Information

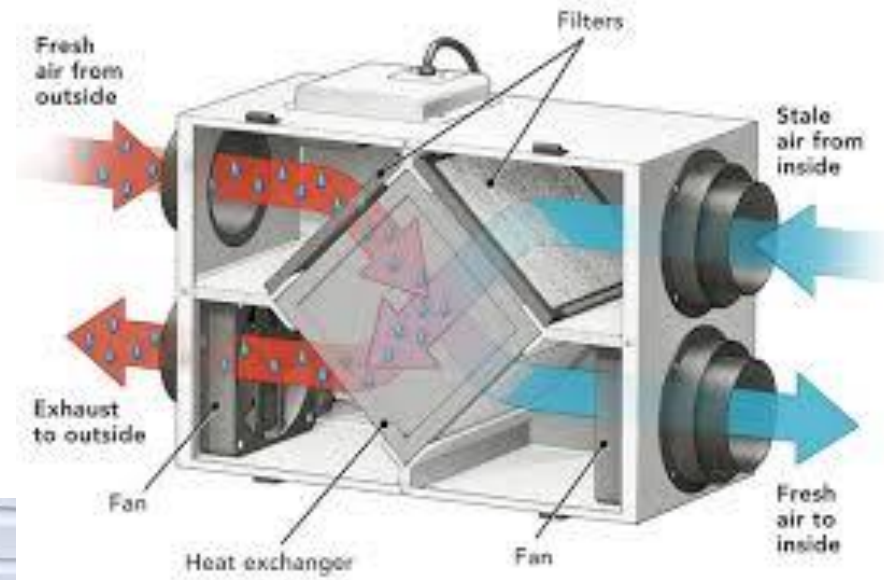
CAMPAIGN EXCLUSIVE TIERED PRICING (Aggregate kw)



[www.solarcrowdsource.com](http://www.solarcrowdsource.com)

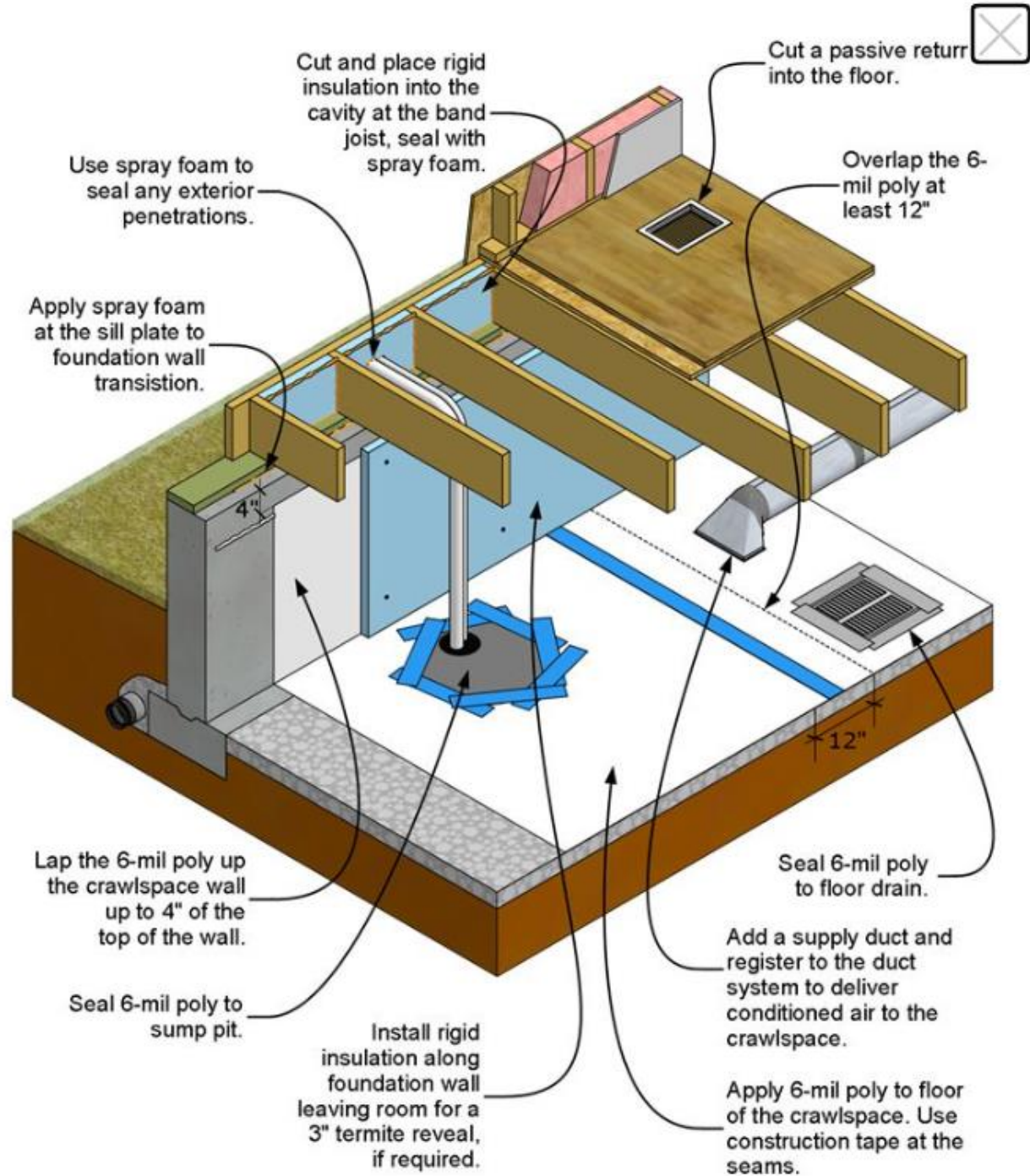
# MYTH #3

## House has to breathe



Credit: Energy Vanguard







# Crawlspace seal precautions

Radon!!!!!!!

Moisture- mold

Natural Draft Furnace & Water heater

Hazardous Material-Asbestos

<https://basc.pnnl.gov/information/pre-assessment-crawlspaces-and-baser>

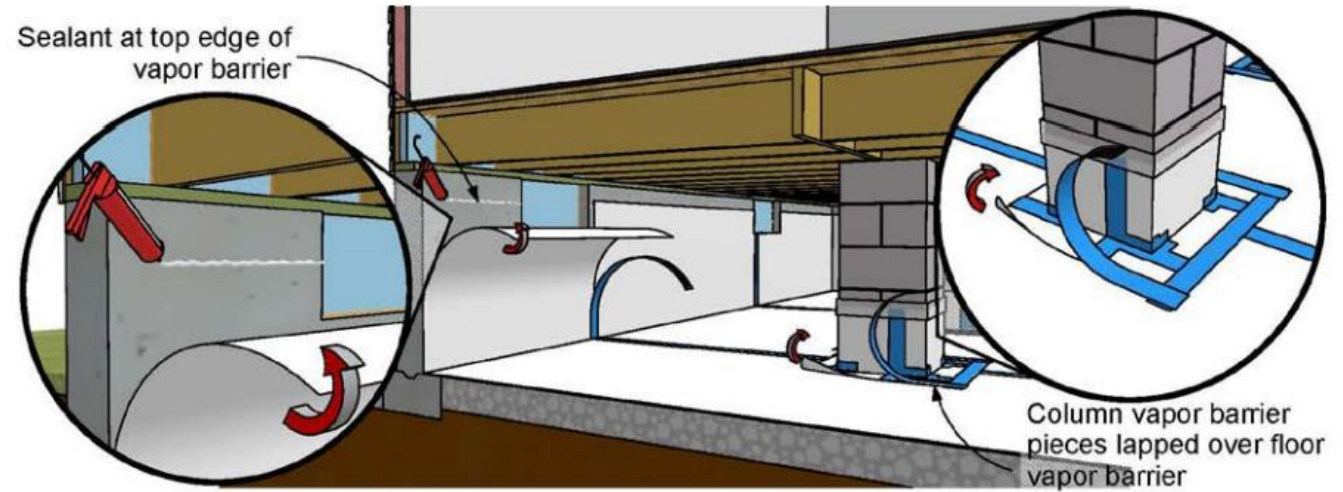


Figure 22. Apply poly vapor barrier, and lap and seal the seams

## Getting the word out ??

Please spend a few minutes working with your table mates answering the following questions?

-Please record on the sheets provided

Who in your community would benefit most from this information??

In your community work, what are your most effective ways to empower community members with information??



Report out!!

Please spend a few minutes working with your table mates answering the following questions?

-Please record on the sheets provided

Who in your community would benefit most from this information??

In your community work, what are your most effective ways to empower community members with information??





# Mentimeter Question

When was the last time you used your fireplace

- Whenever cold weather is expected
- The last ice storm
- A romantic night at home
- Christmas morning in 19.....



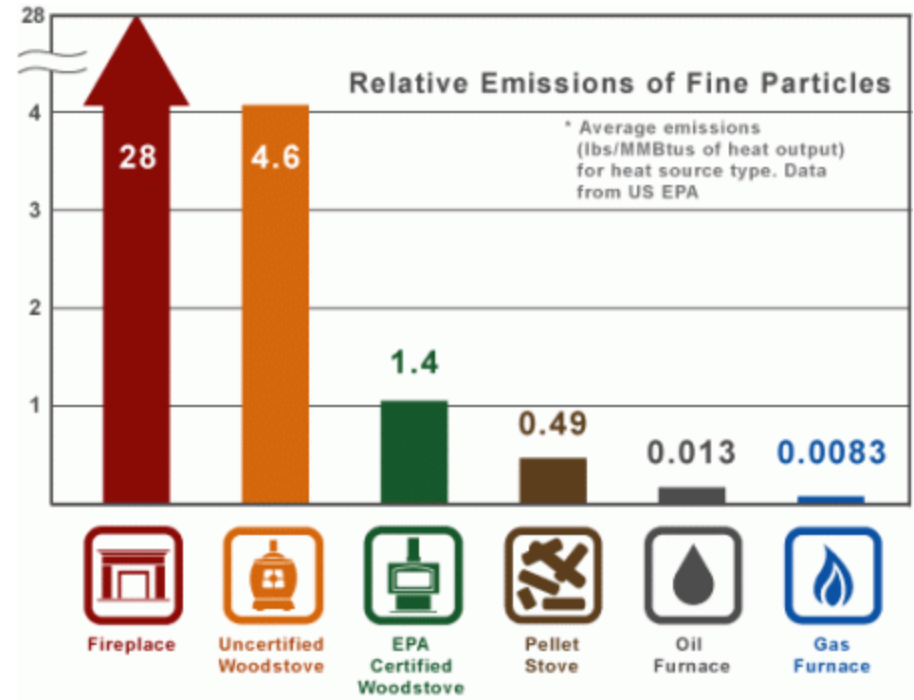
Credit: Omni Grove Park Inn



## MYTH #4

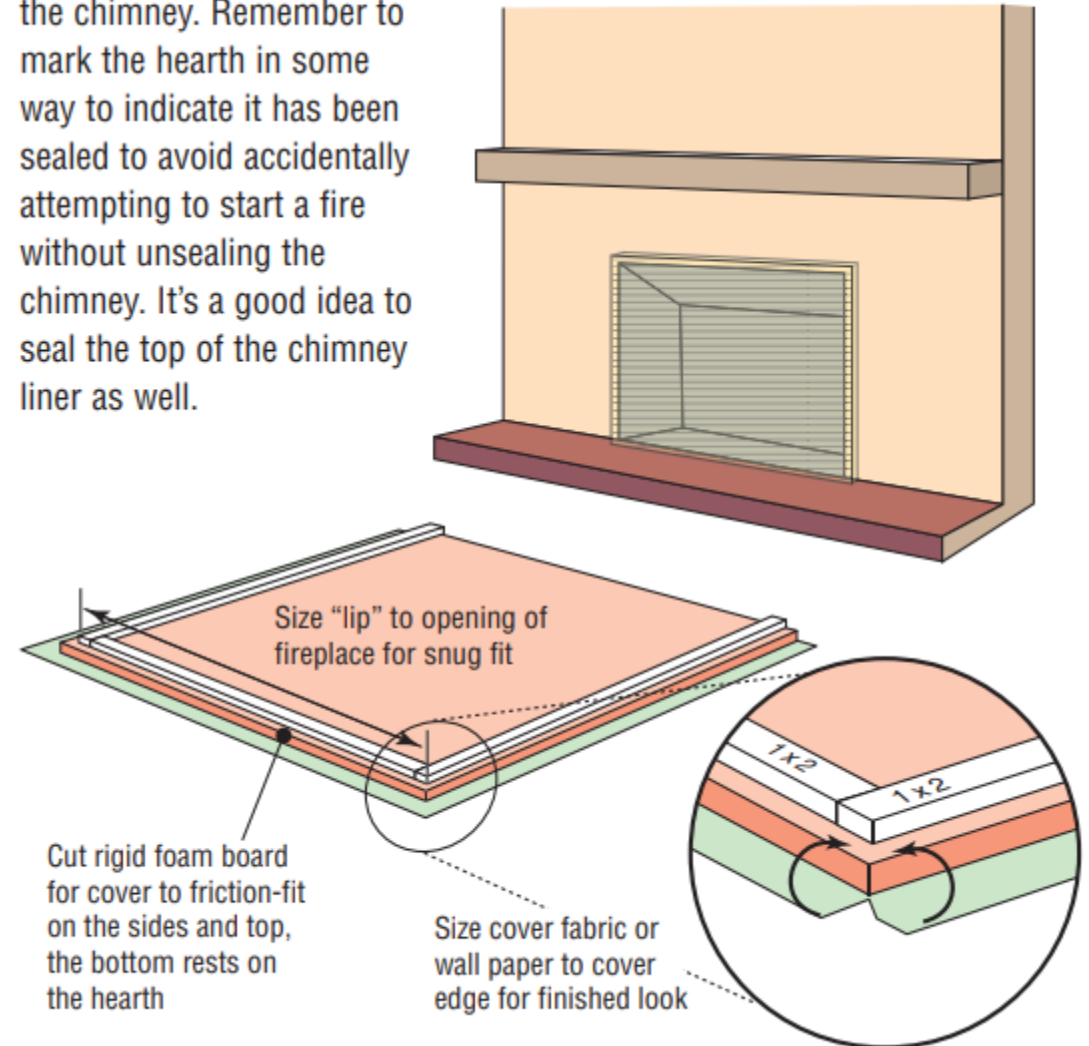
Fireplace heat can substitute





## Have a Fireplace That is Not Being Used?

Closing the damper reduces room air escaping up the chimney to a degree but it is best to tightly seal the chimney. Use any rigid material such as insulation board and caulk to create a semi-permanent seal over the chimney opening. Another option is to use a specially designed product such as an inflatable air-pillow to seal the chimney. Remember to mark the hearth in some way to indicate it has been sealed to avoid accidentally attempting to start a fire without unsealing the chimney. It's a good idea to seal the top of the chimney liner as well.



# Mentimeter Question

Is your HVAC fan set to AUTO or ON

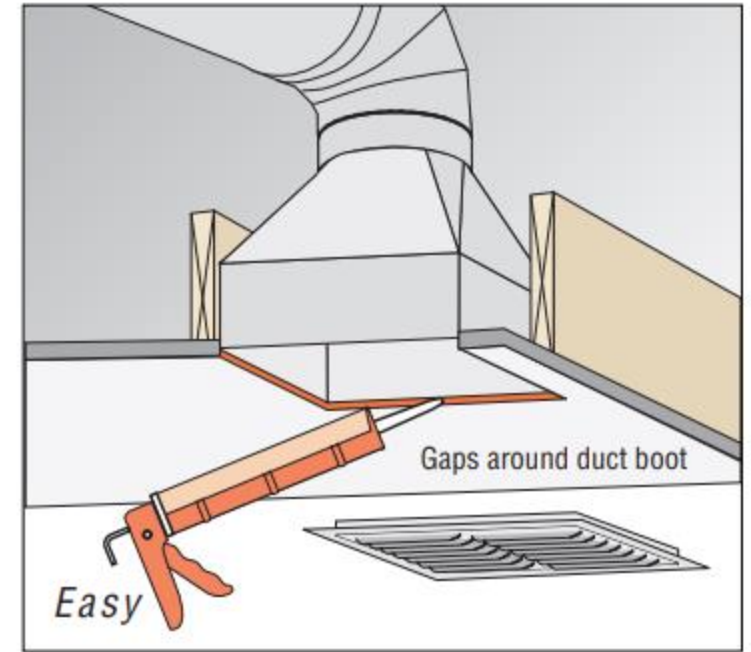
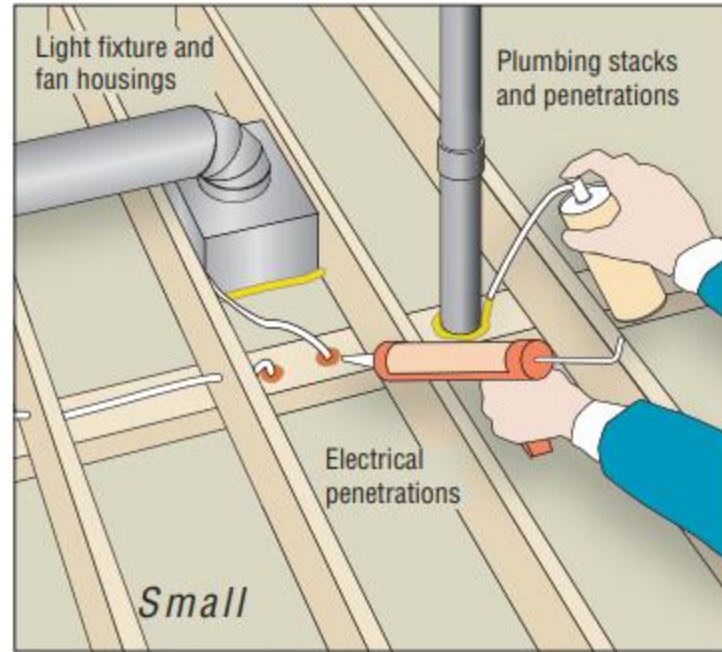
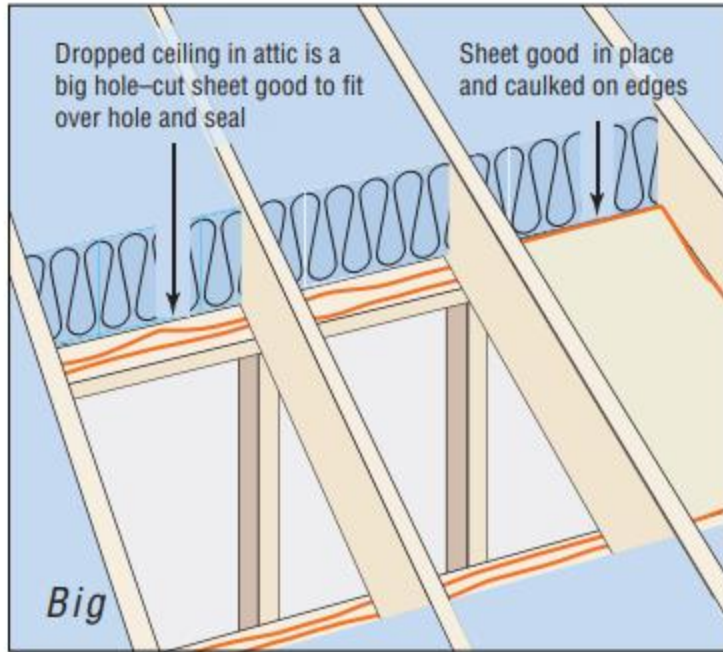




# MYTH #5

More insulation is better

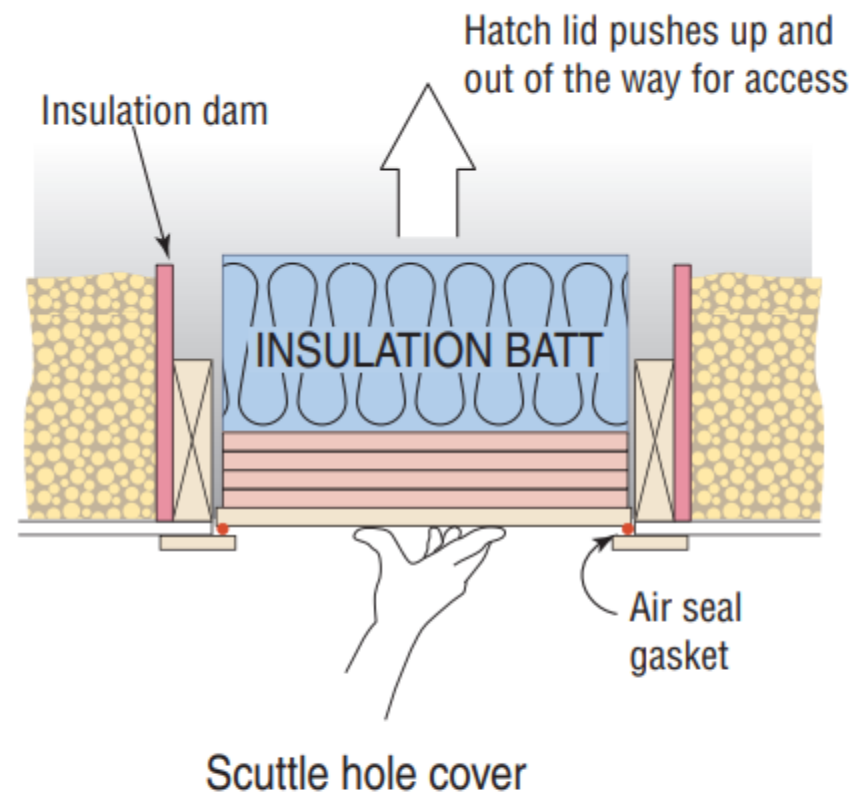
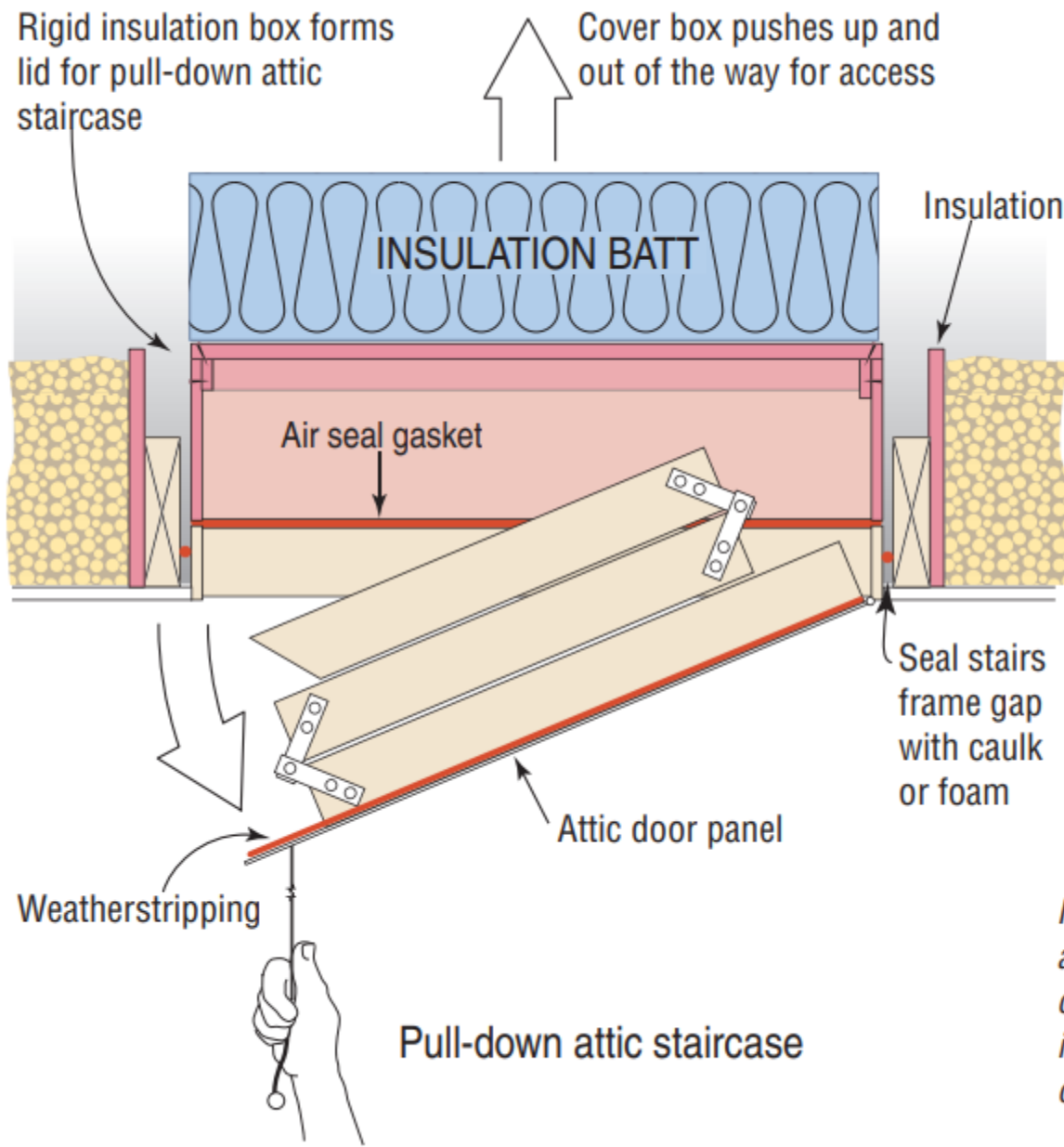




*One rule is that if you are in the attic and can see the back side of an interior wall, you should seal and insulate over that chase. Some penetrations, such as duct boots, can be sealed from the living space side.*

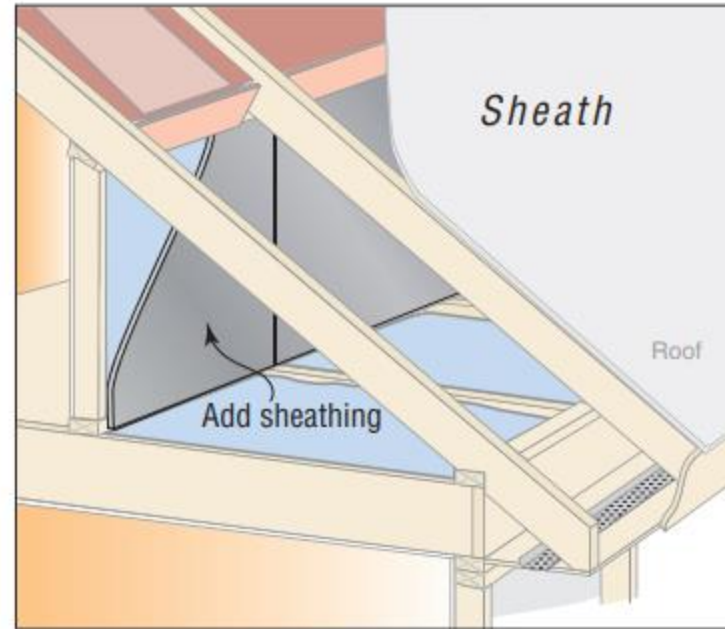
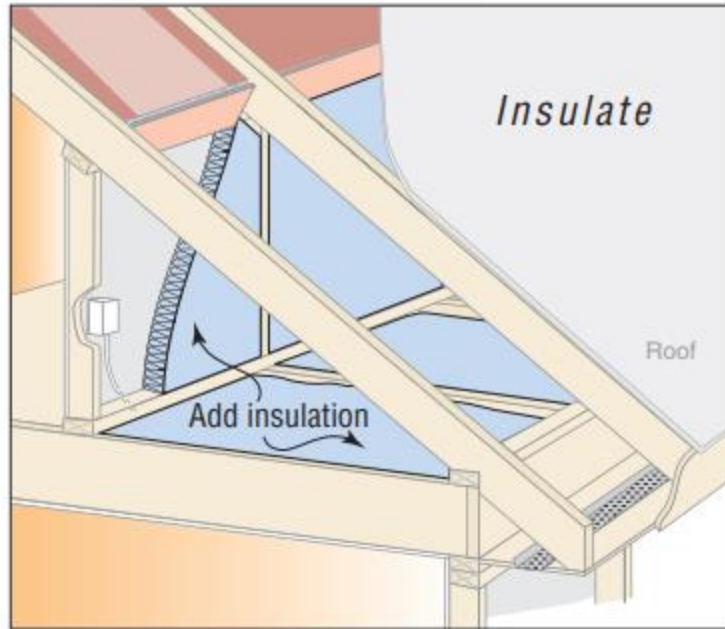
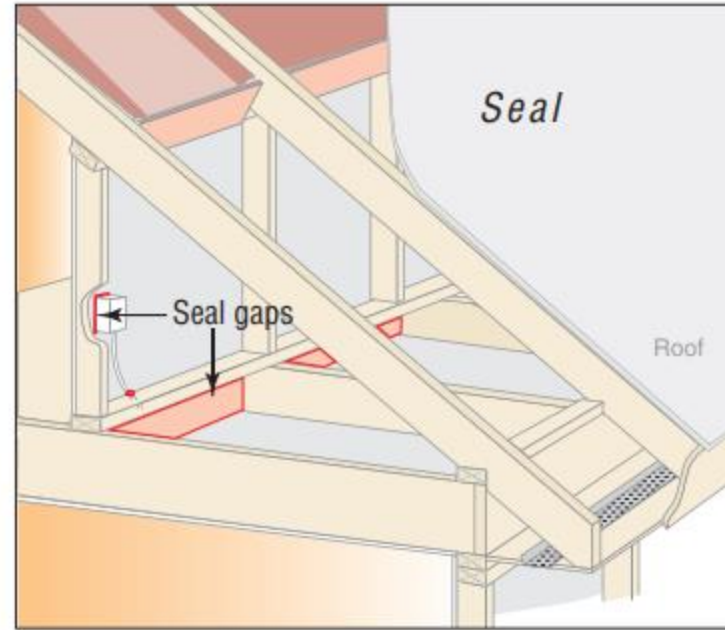
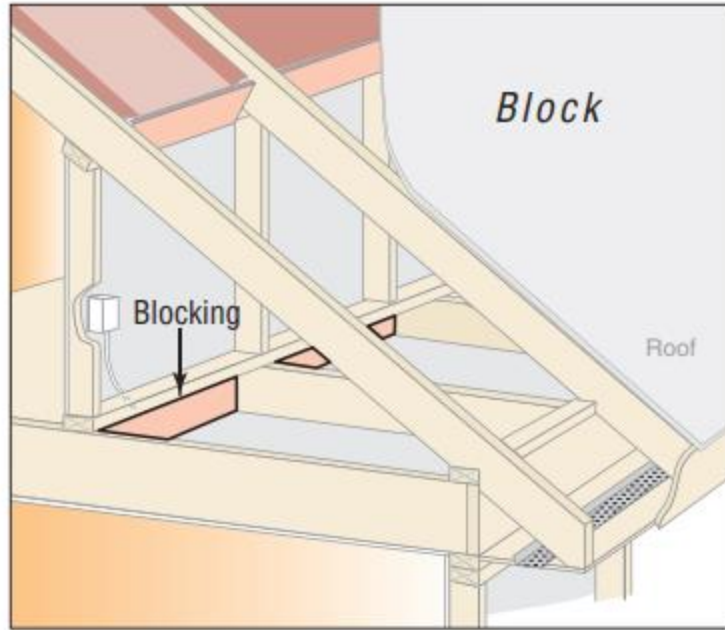






*Make cover box and scuttle coverings snug, yet with enough slack to allow for easy movement. Construct with rigid insulation board, nails, construction glue and duct tape. Insulation dams help to keep insulation in place. Consider installing a secure landing spot for movement in and out of the attic.*





# Mentimeter Question

Do you leave your ceiling fans on to keep the hot air from rising?

Yes

No



Credit Big Ass Fans

## Table Question

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Top 5 energy users in your home?

If you knew you were spending \_\_\_ per year on an energy hog how much would you spend to upgrade for a 75% savings?

- \$50
- \$120
- \$1000





# Bill Analysis

The screenshot displays the Georgia Power website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Feedback, Contact Us, Logout, and a welcome message for Robert. Below this is the Georgia Power logo and a main navigation menu with options like Billing and Payments, My Profile, and Support Center. A green arrow points to the 'Usage' link in the 'Billing and Payments' dropdown menu. The account address is 405 10TH ST NE APT 2... 43318-72116. A 'Smart Usage' promotional banner is visible, along with an 'Overview' section containing 'Account Details' and 'Your Current Bill'.

Feedback Contact Us Logout Welcome, Robert

Georgia Power Billing and Payments My Profile Support Center

405 10TH ST NE APT 2... 43318-72116 Overview Pay Now Options History Usage Save Money & Energy Payment Arrangements More

**Smart Usage**  
Save on your energy bill with our Smart Usage rate by changing how and when you use energy.  
[Tell Me More](#)

**Overview**

**Account Details**  
405 10TH ST NE APT 2nd ATLANTA GA 30309  
43318-72116  
405 10TH ST NE  
APT 2nd  
ATLANTA, GA 30309

**Your Current Bill**  
Draft Date **09/25/2023**  
Billing Period 08/02/2023-09/01/2023  
[Billing & Payment History](#)  
Total Due **\$0.00**  
Total due reflects pending/scheduled payments  
[Manage Your Auto Pay Account](#)  
[Pay Your Other Bills](#)

CHAT

405 10TH ST NE APT 2...  
43318-72116

Overview Pay Now Options History Usage Save Money & Energy Payment Arrangements More

### My Power Usage

This Month's Bill Estimate  
\$66 - \$89

Cost Trend vs. Last Bill  
-22% to +5%

Cost From 9/1/2023 - 9/10/2023  
\$24.17

Average Daily Cost  
\$2.42

Monthly Daily **Hourly**

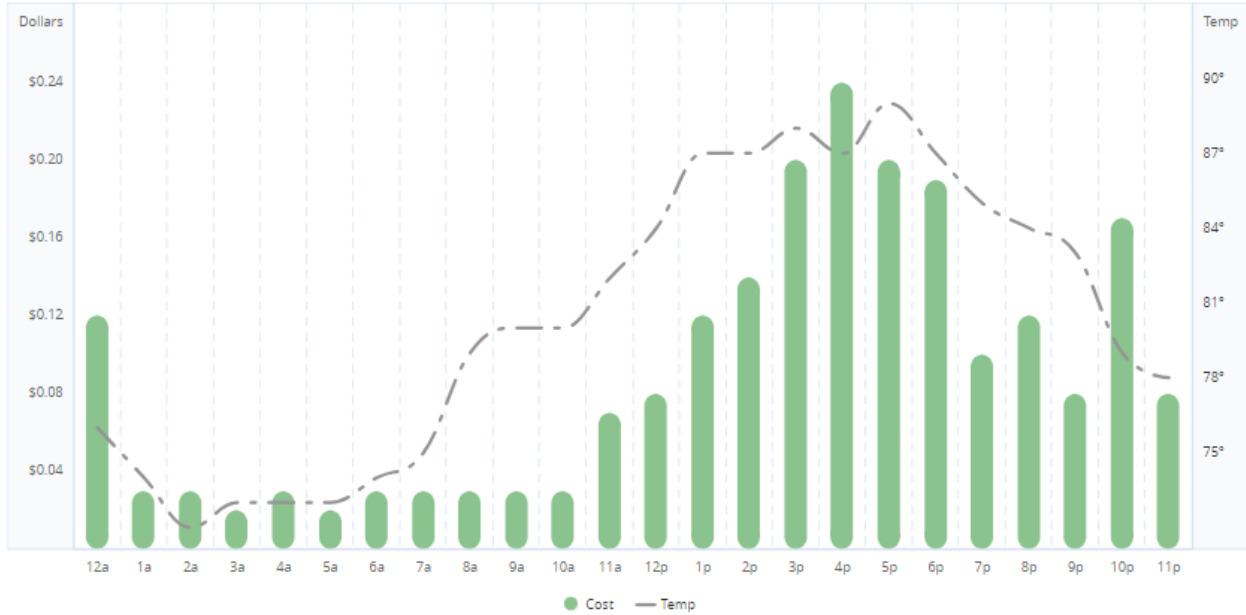
Chart Options

Graph  Table

Date

◀ Sep 5, 2023 📅 ▶

Export ▾



405 10TH ST NE APT 2...  
43318-72116

Overview Pay Now Options History Usage Save Money & Energy Payment Arrangements More

### My Power Usage

Billed Amount <b>\$85.02</b>	Cost Trend vs. Last Bill <span style="color: green;">▼</span> -11%	Cost From 8/2/2023 - 9/1/2023 <b>\$85.02</b>	Average Daily Cost <b>\$2.84</b> ⓘ
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Monthly **Daily** Hourly

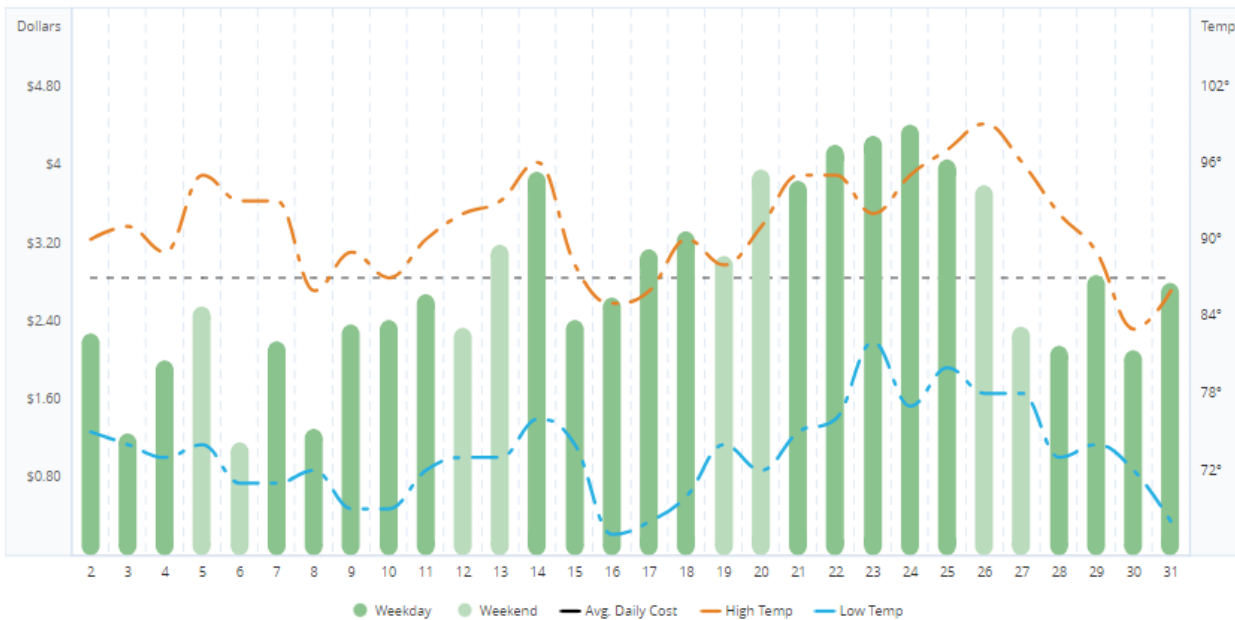
[Chart Options](#)

Graph  Table

Billing Period

Aug 2, 2023 - Sep 1, 2023

Export



Disclaimer: Until your account actually goes through billing, dollar amounts, and billing dates are estimated for electric service for the current billing period. The estimated dollar

Lynmont  
53427-30004

Overview

Pay Now

Options

History

Usage

Save Money & Energy

Payment Arrangements

Mor

### My Power Usage

This Month's Bill Estimate  
\$220 - \$243

Cost Trend vs. Last Bill  
+232% to +267%

Cost From 8/17/2023 - 9/10/2023  
\$171.07

Average Daily Cost  
\$6.84

Monthly

Daily

Hourly

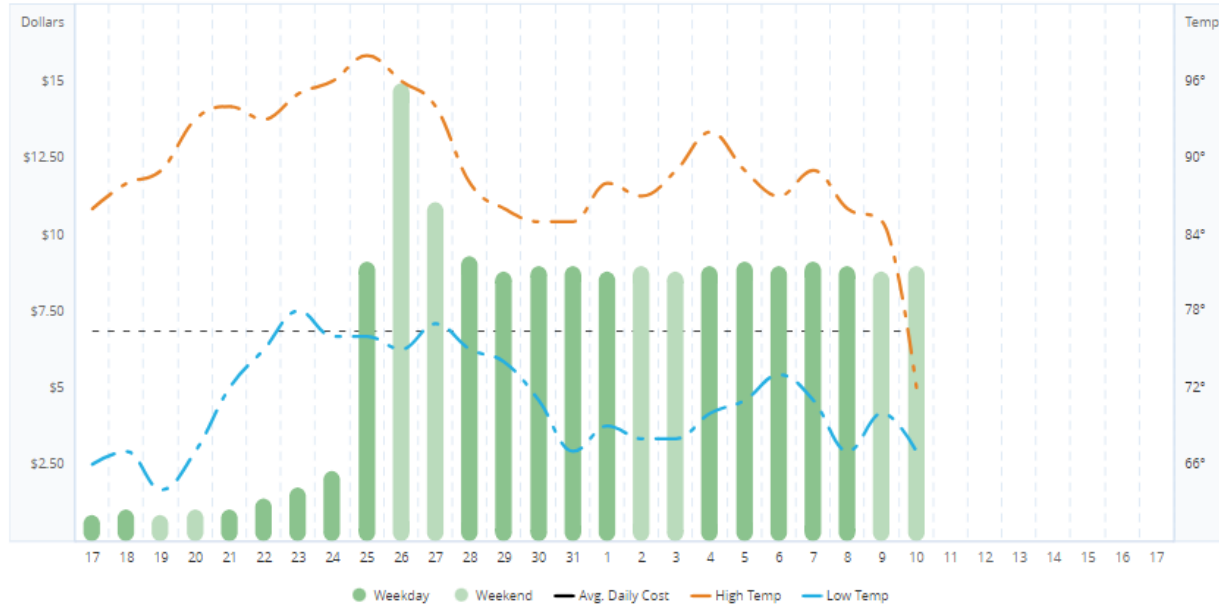
Chart Options

Graph  Table

Billing Period

Aug 17, 2023 - Sep 18, 2023

Export



Disclaimer: Until your account actually goes through billing, dollar amounts, and billing dates are estimated for electric service for the current billing period. The estimated dollar amounts assume that energy usage is constant in order to make a projection and do not reflect temperature forecasts, power outages or disconnects for non-pay. Your TOTAL



Lynmont  
53427-30004

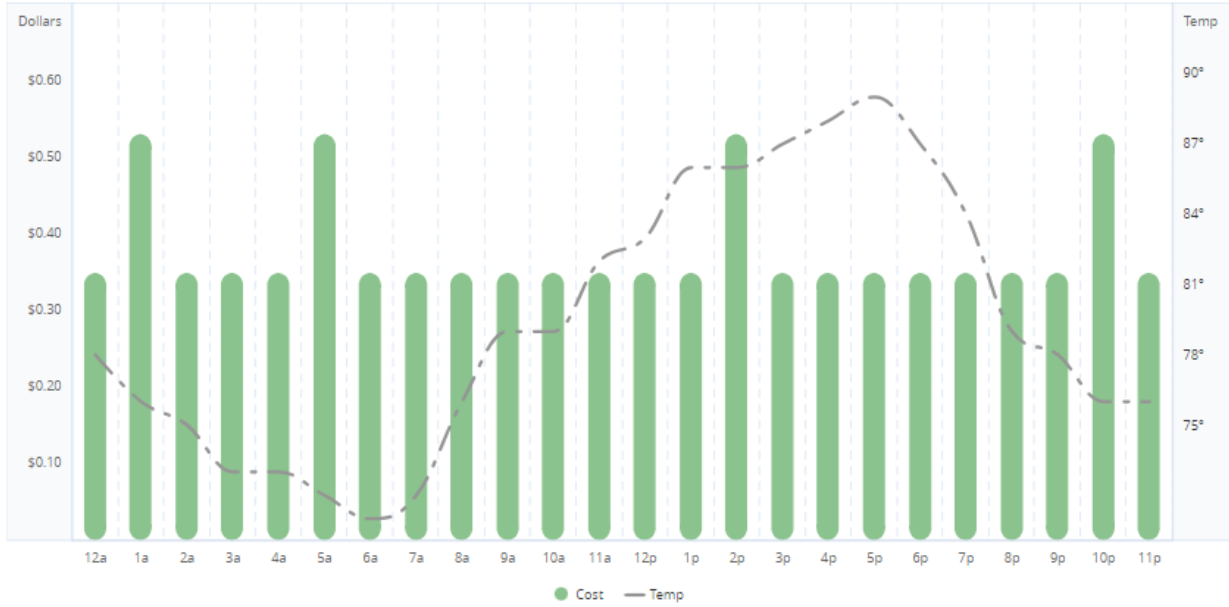
Overview Pay Now Options History Usage Save Money & Energy Payment Arrangements More

### My Power Usage

This Month's Bill Estimate \$220 - \$243	Cost Trend vs. Last Bill <span style="color: red;">↑</span> +232% to +267%	Cost From 8/17/2023 - 9/10/2023 \$171.07 <span style="font-size: small;">i</span>	Average Daily Cost \$6.84 <span style="font-size: small;">i</span>
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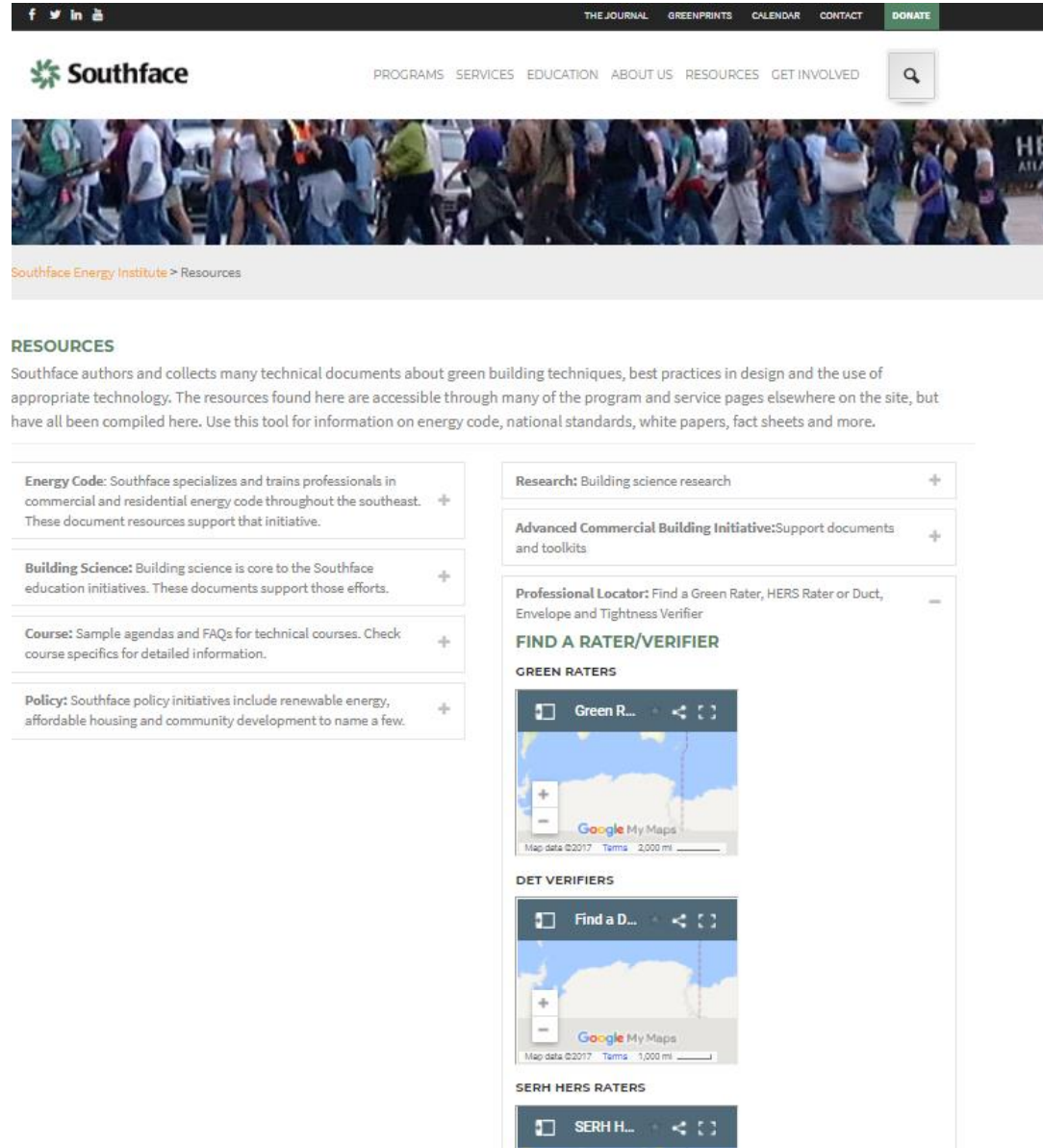
Monthly Daily **Hourly** Chart Options Graph  Table

Date: Sep 5, 2023 📅 Export ▼



Disclaimer: Until your account actually goes through billing, dollar amounts, and billing dates are estimated for electric service for the current billing period. The estimated dollar amounts assume that energy usage is constant in order to make a projection and do not reflect temperature forecasts, power outages or disconnects for non-pay. Your TOTAL

# Who can help



The screenshot shows the Southface website's Resources page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with social media icons (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube) on the left and links for THE JOURNAL, GREENPRINTS, CALENDAR, CONTACT, and DONATE on the right. Below this is the Southface logo and a main navigation menu with links for PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EDUCATION, ABOUT US, RESOURCES, and GET INVOLVED. A search icon is also present. A large banner image shows a diverse group of people walking. Below the banner, the breadcrumb trail reads "Southface Energy Institute > Resources".

## RESOURCES

Southface authors and collects many technical documents about green building techniques, best practices in design and the use of appropriate technology. The resources found here are accessible through many of the program and service pages elsewhere on the site, but have all been compiled here. Use this tool for information on energy code, national standards, white papers, fact sheets and more.

- Energy Code:** Southface specializes and trains professionals in commercial and residential energy code throughout the southeast. These document resources support that initiative.
- Building Science:** Building science is core to the Southface education initiatives. These documents support those efforts.
- Course:** Sample agendas and FAQs for technical courses. Check course specifics for detailed information.
- Policy:** Southface policy initiatives include renewable energy, affordable housing and community development to name a few.

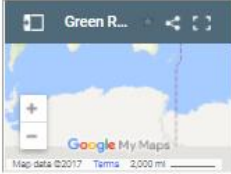
**Research:** Building science research

**Advanced Commercial Building Initiative:** Support documents and toolkits

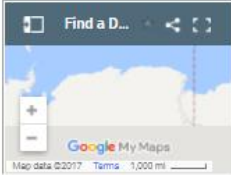
**Professional Locator:** Find a Green Rater, HERS Rater or Duct, Envelope and Tightness Verifier

### FIND A RATER/VERIFIER


**GREEN RATERS**



**DET VERIFIERS**



**SERH HERS RATERS**



# Thank you!

Sign up for our newsletter

Register for events

Register for trainings

Become a member

Give to our mission

**Visit [Southface.org](https://www.southface.org)**





Questions?