

Four Easy Steps to a More Efficient, Comfortable Home

- 1 Sign-up.** Go to CharlestonWISE.org and click on the Sign-up button to fill out an application form. CharlestonWISE will contact you to schedule your complimentary in-home consultation.
- 2 Schedule your Free In-Home Consultation with a CharlestonWISE Energy Advocate.** The Advocate will analyze the “house as a system” and report findings that address comfort and indoor air quality problems too. Your Energy Advocate will create a custom plan for home performance upgrades, provide referrals to quality-assured home performance contractors and explain how the CharlestonWISE and your utility company rebates work together to further reduce the cost of the Assessment and Improvements.
- 3 Select an Approved Contractor and Complete Your Improvements.** You select which energy improvements you would like to make. The CharlestonWISE program has a full-time Quality Assurance coordinator to perform a quality assurance checks on each and every job, including field inspections of completed work
- 4 Redeem Your INSTANT Energy Cash for Completed Improvements.** After the energy improvements are completed, your Energy Advocate will return to test the house again and ensure work was done correctly to specification.

*Your One Stop Shop for Making
Energy Efficiency Improvements!*



What is CharlestonWISE?

CharlestonWISE is a community based energy program for Charleston County households offering trusted advice and personalized service to make home energy upgrades easy and affordable.

Our expert staff is your personal resource every step of the way to answer questions and ensure complete satisfaction with your home energy upgrade.

Benefits of a Home Energy Upgrade

By investing in whole house energy upgrades, homeowners will enjoy these benefits:

Temperatures will be consistent throughout your home and rooms will no longer be too hot or too cold.

Increasing the amount of fresh air inside homes has helped some homeowners reduce or eliminate nagging allergies.

Save money on your utility bills and reduce greenhouse gas or carbon emissions.

Enhance home values with energy upgrades, thereby making the entire community a better place to live.

Program Features

Consultation: The CharlestonWISE Energy Advocate is a building science expert who will meet with you and inspect your home to identify where energy is wasted. The Advocate will analyze the “house as a system” and report findings that address comfort and indoor air quality problems too. The Energy Advocate will create a custom plan for home energy upgrades and referrals to quality-assured home performance contractors.

Home Energy Score: The Sustainability Institute has partnered with the Dept. of Energy as the exclusive provider of Home Energy Scores to Charleston County. The Home Energy Score will evaluate the home’s potential for cost effective upgrades as a preliminary evaluation for program participants.

Rebates: Up to \$3500 in total rebates are available from CharlestonWISE and SCE&G. CharlestonWISE contractors give customers instant discounts on home energy upgrades and the program assists clients with mail-in utility rebates.

Financing: CharlestonWISE home energy upgrades are affordable with low interest financing through the SEEA/SunWest PowerSaver loan program. Homeowners can finance projects up to \$25,000 at current rates under 5%. Eligible improvements must include energy efficiency measures and may include renewable energy systems such as solar, ground source heat pump or high efficiency heating and cooling replacements.

Quality Assured Contractors: CharlestonWISE works only with select home performance contractors certified by the Building Performance Institute, who guarantee their work meets the CharlestonWISE program standards. The CharlestonWISE program has a full-time Quality Assurance coordinator to perform a quality assurance checks on each and every job, including field inspections of completed work.

FAQs

What is a Home Energy Assessment and why should I get one? The home Energy Assessment is the single most important step to quality work and the successful installation of home energy improvements. **CharlestonWISE** provides a “whole house” Energy Assessment performed by an Energy Advocate, who is a BPI (Building Performance Institute) Certified Building Analyst. The term “whole house” means that your Energy Advocate will not only evaluate the efficiency of individual components of your house, but he or she will also look at how those systems interact with each other.

Do I need to own my home or small business property? Yes, you must be the home or small business owner.

Do I have to live within Charleston County to qualify for CharlestonWISE services? Yes, you must be a City of Charleston resident to become a **CharlestonWISE** customer.

Do I have to take out a loan to receive rebates and services? No, If you are not interested in financing your improvements or do not qualify for a loan, you can still take advantage of the rebates offered by **CharlestonWISE** and your utility company.