Heat Pump Water Heater User Tips

Properly used, a heat pump water heater can SAVE OVER 70% compared to a standard electric water heater.

Tens of thousands of Mainers own heat pump water heaters. They're popular because they:

- produce lots of hot water.
- save more than $500 per year in electricity.*
- help dehumidify.
- cost less, after available incentives, than traditional electric water heaters.
- typically have 10+ year warranties.

**Compared to a traditional electric water heater as shown on Efficiency Maine's Compare Water Heating Costs calculator as of 4/6/2026. Your results may differ.*

efficiency MAINE

efficiencymaine.com
866-376-2463

052 4/6/2026

efficiency MAINE

Here are some ways to ensure you get the most from your heat pump water heater:

SET UP

1. Set the water heater at the lowest temperature that works for you. 120°F is a good place to start. The cooler the tank is, the less energy it will lose.

2. Use "Heat Pump (only)" mode whenever possible.

3. Maximize the water heater's accessible space. If it is in a utility room, try opening the door to give it access to a larger space. Remember, heat pump water heaters get their heat from the air around them.

4. Be sure that air flow to/from the unit is unimpeded.

5. If the heater isn't producing enough hot water, try these steps in this order:
   a. Consider low flow aerators and shower heads as well as efficient clothes washers,
   b. Raise the set point of the water heater and install an anti-scald mixing valve,
   c. Try the "Hybrid" mode.

OPERATION

1. Some heat pump water heaters have an indicator showing when the air filter needs to be rinsed. Follow directions on how to rinse the filter and reset the indicator light.

2. Consider using "Vacation" mode if you are leaving the home for an extended period of time.