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***ENERGY STAR and Home Energy Solutions Make for a Cool Combination***

*Energize Connecticut offers homeowners big savings to prepare their homes for summer weather*

**NEW BRITAIN, Conn.** (June 25, 2015) – As Connecticut residents know, our weather can change quickly, and with great impact. Now that warmer temperatures are here, Energize Connecticut is advising homeowners that it's time to ensure their home's air conditioning (A/C) systems are efficient, up-to-date and ENERGY STAR®-certified.

As part of the [Energize Connecticut](#) initiative, [rebates](#) and financing options are available to residents who upgrade central air conditioning systems with high efficiency systems that meet [ENERGY STAR®](#) standards.

To receive these rebates, homeowners are encouraged to sign up for the Home Energy Solutions<sup>SM</sup> (HES) program and receive a \$250 rebate when they upgrade their existing A/C systems to high-efficiency ENERGY STAR® models. Participating in HES will help ensure that a home will be more air tight to retain the cool air in the summer and warm air in the winter months.

An additional rebate of \$500 is available if homeowners use a Quality Installation Verification (QIV) contractor when installing a new system, offering \$750 in total rebates, not including manufactures' rebates.

"This is the perfect time for homeowners to think about their air conditioning units, and now there are more energy-efficient models on the market than ever," said, Jennifer Parsons, program administrator, residential new construction and HVAC efficiency programs, The United Illuminating Company. "In addition, homeowners can take advantage of the attractive rebates and financing options through Energize Connecticut to further save."

Here is a checklist that will help homeowners determine if it's time to upgrade or replace their A/C system:

- Heat pump or air conditioner is more than 10 years old
- Equipment needs frequent repairs and energy bills are going up
- Some rooms in the home are too hot or too cold
- Heating or cooling system is noisy
- No programmable thermostat to control temperature set-points

For more information on residential energy efficiency programs and HVAC rebates, please call 1-877-WISE-USE or visit [www.EnergizeCT.com](http://www.EnergizeCT.com).

***About Energize Connecticut***

Energize Connecticut helps you save money and use clean energy. It is an initiative of the Energy Efficiency Fund, The Connecticut Green Bank, the State, and your local electric and gas utilities, with funding from a charge on customer energy bills. Information on energy-saving programs can be found at [www.EnergizeCT.com](http://www.EnergizeCT.com) or by calling 1.877.WISE.USE.