

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Energy Efficiency Easier With Expert Advice

(NAPSA)—Energy-efficient home cooling systems don't just save homeowners money on energy bills and reduce the harmful impact on the environment. This year, qualified systems may also help homeowners earn a federal tax credit under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

To be sure the system you choose will operate at peak efficiency, it's important to have it installed by a qualified contractor who is knowledgeable about high-efficiency systems, such as those that have earned an Energy Star label.

The most qualified technicians are those who have been certified by a recognized authority in the HVAC industry.

For example, qualified heating, ventilating, air-conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R) technicians, such as those certified by North American Technician Excellence (NATE), have proven their knowledge in the HVAC/R industry by passing specialized certification tests. NATE is the only technician certification organization supported by the HVAC/R industry.

By properly installing and maintaining the system, a certified technician can do more than help homeowners lower utility bills.

Proper installation can prevent callbacks and warranty returns. Service is fast and efficient and systems are more likely to run at peak efficiency, which is even more important when budgets are tight.



**Using a certified technician ensures your HVAC system will be functioning at its best and as efficiently as possible.**

Finding a certified technician has become a lot easier. A helpful new Web site, [www.HVACRAdvice.com](http://www.HVACRAdvice.com), features a contractor locator where homeowners can type in their zip code and find local companies that employ NATE-certified technicians.

In addition to a contractor locator, the site also features an energy-savings calculator, a heating/cooling checklist, maintenance tips, information on how to make your home more energy efficient, details on carbon monoxide safety and detection, and definitions of efficiency ratings.

For more information, visit [www.HVACRAdvice.com](http://www.HVACRAdvice.com).