

TIPS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Crack Down On Leaks In Your Home

(NAPSA)—You may be shocked at how easy it can be to lower your energy bills. Experts say a simple test can save the average household hundreds of dollars a year.

To the naked eye, most homes look air tight. A recent study found however, that this is often not the case. The average home has a number of holes, gaps and cracks through which heat can escape in the winter and cool air escapes in the summer.

These leaks can add up and sealing them is a bright way to cut rising energy costs.

In fact, it is estimated that if all the cracks in the average home were combined, the resulting hole would be four feet wide and four feet tall—that's similar to having a window wide open in the house, year round.

To find the cracks in your castle's armor, heating experts recommend the incense test: Starting in the attic, hold a lit incense stick next to windows, doors, electrical boxes, plumbing fixtures, electrical outlets and ceiling fixtures around the home—anywhere that air might be able to escape. If the smoke stream travels horizontally, there is a leak.



Sealing the various cracks and leaks in a house can save homeowners big bucks.

Additionally, check for dirty spots in the insulation. This is a clear indication that air is leaking in and out of a home.

Once you've located the leaks you'll be able to seal them and start saving money. It's a good idea to use a polyurethane foam sealant such as Great Stuff to block the airflows. The sealant is said to be easy to use and such products can help keep homeowners from throwing more money out of leaks, cracks and windows.

For more information visit www.itsgreatstuff.com.