

7 Cooperative Principles

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values. These principles are a key reason why we operate differently from other business models. We believe in putting the needs of our members first.

1. VOLUNTARY & OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Membership in our cooperative is open to all people who can reasonably use our services and stand willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, regardless of race, religion, gender, gender expression, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or economic circumstances.

2. DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Representatives (directors) are elected among members and are accountable to them. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member = one vote).

3. MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of our cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of our co-op. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the co-op; setting up reserves; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-op; and supporting other activities approved by our membership.

4. AUTONOMY & INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If we enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, we do so on terms that ensure democratic control as well as our own unique identity.

5. EDUCATION, TRAINING & INFORMATION

Education and training for members, elected representatives (directors), CEOs and employees help them effectively contribute to the development of our cooperative. Communications about the nature and benefits of co-ops, particularly with the public and opinion leaders, help boost cooperative understanding.

6. COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

By working together through local, regional, national and international structures, cooperatives improve services, bolster local economies, and deal more effectively with the needs of our communities.

7. CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Our cooperative works for the sustainable development of our communities through policies supported by the membership.

Learn about the cooperative difference online at www.pvrea.coop/gocoop

COMING SOON >

NEW LOOK.
BETTER SERVICE.

We're changing how our website looks and operates. But rest assured, our same great products and services remain.

Learn more at www.pvrea.coop >





FACES, PLACES, & VOICES OF



TERRY WILLIS

PVREA Member

How A Heat Pump Can Meet Your Heating & Cooling Needs

As we enter the fall season, it's a great time to share how one member has found comfort and efficiency for their heating and cooling needs by using a high-efficiency variable speed heat pump.

We met Terry at his home in Windsor, where he and his wife, Janelle, have lived for over 24 years.

Their house was cool and quiet, thanks in part to the cool September afternoon. But Terry was quick to point out how satisfied he has been year after year since installing his heat pump.

“Truthfully after it was put in, it totally changed the comfort of the house.”



A continuously running fan constantly circulates air throughout the house – automatically heating or cooling the air to their desired temperature while filtering particulates and increasing the overall comfort of their home. Setting the humidifier to run continuously also, “made a world of difference (while heating) last winter,” according to Terry.

He said he loves how quiet the system is, not hearing the rush of air as the system starts up or the constant loud hum of a fan like in his old furnace/AC combo.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SYSTEM

With a 20-year-old heating and cooling system, Terry needed a replacement. He recalled how heat pumps had a bad reputation when he first heard about them.

“Thirty years ago, heat pumps had a terrible name, a bad reputation,” Terry said. “Of course, they aren't the same heat pumps they are today.”

They certainly aren't! Modern cold climate heat pumps can heat homes efficiently in sub-zero temperatures, even as low as -25 F. A heat pump can transfer 300%

more energy than it consumes, compared to a high-efficiency gas furnace's 95% rating.

We recommend variable speed or cold climate heat pumps to not only keep you more comfortable, but also maximize your savings during heating and cooling seasons.

MAKING THE CHANGE

Terry found information about the current benefits of variable speed heat pumps by reading his Colorado Country Life Magazine.

Terry then tried his hand at finding a local installer he could trust. “It got real confusing quick,” Terry said. “I thought I would get three different bids and I could compare apples to apples.”

So, he called his co-op. We provided him honest information about heat pumps and put him in touch with one of our Select HVAC contractors – people we've vetted to do good work.

Together, they calculated Terry's square footage, along with vent locations and planned home expansions, to determine what size system would meet his current and future heating and cooling needs.

For the most part it was a one-day installation, with clean up and preference settings on the second day. They come back each spring and fall to replace filters and check his system's settings, updating them as their needs change.

Terry even said if he has issues, they can connect directly to his system via his home's WIFI network to run diagnostics.

MEET TERRY WILLIS – continued from pg. 8

TERRY’S FINAL THOUGHTS

“The electric rate has been stable, and declining,” Terry said. “There’s advantage of the dual fuel system now with natural gas going up in price.”

One major contributing factor Terry said compelled him to install his heat pump was the rebates that were available for him. “The big sell thing is the rebates help compensate for the additional cost of the heat pump,” Terry pointed out. His new system came in at about the same price as a furnace/AC combo, with the added comfort and efficiency that comes with a heat pump.

Overall, Terry had this to say: “There is a lot of value to this dual fuel system, and I highly recommend it.”

If you’re interested in learning how a heat pump could meet your heating and cooling needs, find resources and rebate information online at www.pvrea.coop/heat-pump-rebates. For a list of select HVAC installers, go to www.pvrea.coop/select-hvac.

We’d like to thank Terry and Janelle for welcoming us into their lovely home and sharing their story with us, and their fellow PVREA members.

REBATES FOR HEAT PUMPS

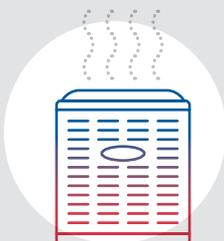
We have rebates available to members who purchase and install air and ground source heat pumps. Find current rebate amounts, qualifications, and how to get started on our website.

Learn more at www.pvrea.coop/heat-pump-rebates

Types of Heat Pumps

There are three main types of heat pump systems. Use the information below to determine the system that’s best suited for your climate and home.

AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

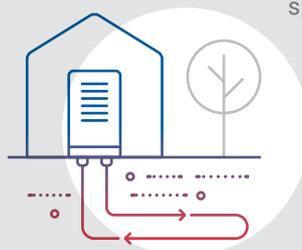


- Most commonly used heat pumps.
- Moves heat rather than converting it from a fuel like combustion heating systems do.
- Can reduce heating costs by about 50 percent when compared to baseboard heaters or electric furnaces.

- Newer, more efficient systems now represent a legitimate space heating alternative in colder regions like the Northeast and Midwest. Note: If temperatures in your area drop below 10 to 25 F, you will need an auxiliary heating system (depending on the size of the system).

GEOHERMAL HEAT PUMPS

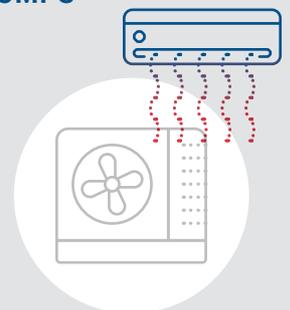
- More expensive to install but provide more energy savings for heating and cooling.
- Move heat through pipes buried underground.



- When compared to a conventional heating system, can reduce energy use by 25 to 50 percent.
- Effective in extreme climates.
- Not ideal for smaller lots and certain soil conditions.

DUCTLESS MINI-SPLIT HEAT PUMPS

- Easier to install, quiet, small in size.
- Flexible for heating and cooling individual rooms and smaller spaces.
- No energy loss through ductwork, which accounts for more than 30 percent of a home’s energy use for space heating/cooling.



- Installation can be pricey, but federal incentives may be available.

Heat pumps should be installed by a licensed professional.

Sources: Dept. of Energy and Consumer Reports.

Learn more about heat pumps and if they could work for you. Find information online at www.pvrea.coop

SAFETY CORNER

Decorate Safely this Halloween



Plug outdoor electric lights and decorations into outlets protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).

RIDE+DRIVE EVent

We're giving members the opportunity to test drive electric vehicles, ask us questions, and learn about the ways we support EVs.

Sign up while limited time slots are available. Come out to learn about EVs, electric rates to maximize your savings, and charger rebates.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1-4 PM
HERE AT OUR OFFICE
7649 REA PARKWAY, FORT COLLINS

Sign up at www.slotted.co/pvrea_ev_ride_drive.

Teacher Roll Call!

APPLY FOR OUR

EMPOWER GRANT PROGRAM

$E=mc^2$



STEAM projects can receive **\$2,000 per teacher, per year**. Applicants must be from a school located in Larimer, Weld, or Boulder County.

Applications deadline
October 28, 2022

Complete the application online at www.pvrea.coop/empower-grant-program

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED » Monday, Oct 10
FOR A TEAM TRAINING DAY.

OCTOBER 2022

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH



With winter on the way, now is the time to seal drafty windows. If you can see daylight around a window frame or if you can rattle a window, it likely needs to be sealed.

Most window leaks can be sealed with caulk or weatherstripping. Visit energy.gov/energysaver to learn how and where to seal leaks.

Source: energy.gov