



How-To Guides for a Healthy, Fossil Fuel-Free Home

Helping You Plan Your Path to a Greener Home

Before You Get Started

- Understand your home and make a plan to electrify
- Review [How-To Guide #0: The All-Electric Home: Make a Plan](#)

Are you planning any large-scale renovations?

Upgrade your heating system and insulation while the walls are opened.

Have you researched available financial incentives?

There's never been a better time to buy green technologies...don't miss out!

Do you rent?

There are many action items you can do. Look for the asterik (*).

- Read through the **How-To Guides** to review options*
- Explore financial incentives from the State and Federal governments*
- If you rent, explore who pays for utilities – you or your landlord*

Change Light Bulbs to LED

- Save energy now, and enjoy better lighting
- Review [How-To Guide #1: LED Lighting](#)

Do you still have incandescent or fluorescent light bulbs?

Upgrade to LEDs – they last longer, use less energy and provide great light.

- Inventory your light bulbs*
- Get new bulbs, DIY or through Mass Save*

Insulate & Air-Seal

- Make your home more comfortable and energy efficient
- Review [How-To Guide #2: Weatherization – Insulation and Air Sealing](#)

Have you had a Mass Save energy assessment in the last 2 years?

Particularly important if you have drafty or unevenly heated rooms.

Have you air sealed your windows and exterior doors?

Air sealing is a cost-effective way to save energy and improve comfort.

Have you insulated your attic, basement, and exterior walls?

Take advantage of at least 75% off on insulation through Mass Save.

- Schedule a no cost Mass Save home energy assessment*
- Weatherstrip and air seal, DIY or through Mass Save*
- Add insulation, through Mass Save or other renovation projects

Replace Gas Appliances

- Switch to electric when it's time to replace.
- Review [How-To Guide #3: Induction Cooking](#), [#4: Heat Pump Water Heaters](#) and [#5: Heat Pump Dryers](#)

How old are your stove and oven?

Induction stoves are more efficient, safer, and boil water faster.

How old is your water heater?

Consider replacing it with a heat pump (yes, they're also for hot water).

How old is your clothes dryer?

An electric or heat pump dryer can slash your carbon footprint.

- Borrow an induction cook plate kit from the Brookline Library*
- Install an induction or electric stove
- Install an electric or heat pump water heater
- Install an electric or heat pump clothes dryer

Replace Gas or Oil Heating

- Heat with energy-efficient electric heat pumps and get AC too
- Review [How-To Guide #6: Heating and Cooling with Air Source Heat Pumps](#)

How old is your current heating system?

Plan ahead to avoid emergency replacement with a less-than-ideal system.

What is the fuel for your current heating system?

Heat pumps are cheaper to run than oil, propane, or electric resistance, and have a far smaller carbon footprint.

Installing or replacing central AC?

Consider heat pumps instead. They will provide both cooling and heating in one system.

- Research heat pumps and get multiple quotes for your home
- Install heat pumps
- Remove existing fossil fuel heating system

Your Electrical Service

- Make sure your electric panel is ready for a fossil fuel free home
- Review [How-To Guide #7: Electrical Service – What You Need to Know](#)

How many amps is your electrical service?

Ask your electrician. 100 amps may be adequate, but 200 amps is often recommended.

Does your electrical panel have space for additional circuit breakers?

Adding new appliances may require new circuits or a new panel.

- Consult an electrician about your service and adding new appliances

Clean, Green Electricity

- Get solar power on your roof, from the Town, or in the community
- Review [How-To Guide #8: Renewable Electricity](#)

Are you signed up for Brookline Green Electricity?

Going to 100% green electrical power is an easy way to go green – and can be done in addition to rooftop or community solar. See brooklinegreen.com

Does your roof have enough sun for solar panels?

Don't guess, get a professional assessment.

When will your roof next need to be replaced?

That's a great time to add solar panels.

Do you own your roof?

Adding rooftop solar to condos can be a bit more complicated, but is definitely doable.

- Learn more about Brookline Green Electricity*
- Consider community solar*
- Get multiple rooftop solar quotes and prepare to install solar
- Have your roof inspected and if you plan to install solar be sure to inform your roofer

Make A Plan! Read the Guides at www.brooklinema.gov/3656/Electrify-Brookline-How-To-Guides

My next steps this week will be: _____

My next project will be: _____

My projects to research and take on in the future: _____

Electrify Brookline is a collaboration between the Town of Brookline's Zero Emissions Advisory Board (ZEAB), Mothers Out Front Brookline (MOF), and Climate Action Brookline (CAB). Our goal is to provide clear information to guide the community on the path toward electrification – improving the energy efficiency, health and comfort of their living spaces while reducing climate-damaging emissions to preserve a livable future for all.

Thank you to the City of Newton 4 Our Future project for their checklist template.