



Winthrop Club Condominiums

Luxury Living in the Heart of Downtown Evanston

Help Save the Environment One Light Bulb at a Time



If every American home replaced just one light bulb with an Energy Star qualified bulb, it would:

- Save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes a year.
- Save more than \$600,000,000.00 in annual energy costs.
- Prevent green house gases equivalent to the emissions of more than 800,000 cars.

Energy Star qualified bulbs are small in size but have a big impact on the environment.

Each bulb uses approximately 75% less energy than standard incandescent bulbs and produces 75% less heat, so they are safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with home cooling.

These bulbs are available in different shapes and sizes and fit in a majority of indoor and outdoor fixtures.

Energy efficient bulbs can be found at almost any hardware or home improvement store and last 10 times longer than the average bulb.

Stop by the Winthrop Club Sales Center and receive a Free Energy Star Light Bulb.

Refer a Friend and Earn Thousands in Free Upgrades



It's easy to earn thousands in free upgrades at Winthrop Club Condominiums.

Refer a friend or family member, and when they purchase a condominium each of you will receive a \$5,000 credit to upgrade your new home.

This program rewards both the referrer and referee a combined total of \$10,000 in upgrades.

For more information contact the Winthrop Club Sales Center at 847.328.4700.



Winthrop Club Provides Energy Efficient Housing

Buyers look for Conservation Payback

Flick an electric switch on and lights glow. Turn a faucet and hot water streams into bathtubs and showers. Dial up the thermostat, the heat kicks on and cold rooms turn warm and cozy.

There's a cost to be paid for comfort, however, and it's going up. If you're not already switching lights off in unused rooms or keeping your thermostat at a stable 68 degrees, you may soon be looking for other ways to keep a lid on energy costs.

Those rising costs are prompting many home builders in the Chicago area to construct more energy-efficient houses.

Patrick Coveny, founder of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago's (HBAGC) Green Building Committee, sees growing interest in energy efficiency across all price levels in the housing market.

"It's all tied in with global warming and high energy costs. It's in the media. People are thinking about it," said Coveny, who also is president of Hinsdale-based Arch Construction Management.

AROUND **EVANSTON**

Northwestern Basketball



Date: Thursday, Nov. 15
Time: 8 p.m.
Location: Welsh-Ryan Arena

The Northwestern Wildcats take on the Stanford at Welsh-Ryan Arena.

Fran Randall Concert

Date: Friday, Nov. 16
Time: 1:15 p.m.

The first Fran Randall Concert of the season features students from Columbia College performing. The concert is free because the Fran Randall Concert Series is underwritten by the Life Enrichment Fund of the Levy Center. For tickets call 847.448.8250.

21st Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Presented by American Legion Post 42 & Auxiliary

Date: Saturday, Nov. 17
Time: 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Location: The Legion Hall, 1030 Central St.

Proceeds will go to several carefully selected charities serving families in need throughout the Evanston community. Tickets are \$7.00. For more information contact Post 42 at 847.475.9076.

Holiday Tree Lighting

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 20
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Location: Fountain Square in Downtown Evanston

The committee is working on developing voluntary green construction standards for residential builders. Coveny's firm employs a variety of energy-saving features in its homes, such as ultra-efficient open and closed cell foam insulation and air-to-air exchangers that circulate fresh air into a tightly sealed space.

Like Coveny, Court Airhart, president of Airhart Construction in West Chicago, said his company is also focused on building energy efficient homes.

There's a whole approach to building a healthy, energy efficient home. It goes from the thickness of the walls; to house wrap, to high-quality, energy efficient windows, to caulking and preventing air penetration," he said.

The best way to build an energy efficient home, according to Coveny, "is to go with an architect and builder. It's not a menu of choices. You have to look at it as a whole. It doesn't do a lot of good to insulate the heck out of your house and then use an inefficient furnace."

PAYBACK:

Planning is key element for savings

Decisions related to constructing an energy-efficient home begin as soon as a lot is purchased.

"You have to look at how the house is sited, how the sunlight hits it," said Coveny.

That doesn't automatically mean it has to be costly to build an energy-efficient house.

"It doesn't have to be high-end. It doesn't have to be a lot of money," he said, noting that there are energy-efficient houses being built in subdivisions in the suburban Chicago area for prices as low as \$170,000.

Saving money and quality of life are two reasons why buyers invest in energy efficient elements and appliances.

"There's the emotional side of buying and the economic side," Airhart said. "Buyers ask themselves, 'What do I need to make my life better?' and they ask, 'what's a better long-term investment for me?'"

If you are writing those monthly utility checks it may come as no surprise that just living in your house is getting more costly. The U.S. Energy Department's Energy Information Administration is predicting that the cost of natural gas, which is used in 53% of American homes, will increase this winter for residence by 6.3%.

It also forecasts that households will pay \$32.00, or 4 percent, more this winter for electricity. Under this outlook, the price of power in 32 percent of American houses will increase 2 percent to 10.3 cents per kilowatt hour.

A home that's snug in winter and cool in summer sounds appealing both on an emotional and physical level. Buyers want those comforts and quality of life. But when they are purchasing elements that they may add to the cost of their house, they also look at how long it will take for the purchase to pay for itself in energy cost savings.

"Buyers look at the payback period," said Airhart, whose company builds townhouses and single family homes in the \$300,000 to \$1 million range and has been in business for 40 years.

It used to be that buyers looking at living in a house for only a couple of years were not all that willing to invest to save energy.

"But buyers today are looking at how their purchase decisions will affect the resale of their houses," Airhart said.

The good news is that it doesn't take as long for some of those purchases to pay for themselves. He cited energy-efficient gas furnaces as an example.

"It used to be that the payback was 11 or 12 years and it wasn't worth it because the air conditioning coil could go bad in ten years," Airhart said. "Now the payback is in three to four years. It makes more sense."