



Around the House

Home improvement news compliments of Maeser Master Services
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New Energy Efficiency Standards for Water Heaters

The United States Department of Energy has mandated new energy efficiency requirements for all residential water heaters, including gas, electric, oil, and tankless gas heaters. The mandates require higher energy efficiency ratings and will impact the design, manufacturing, and installation of water heaters beginning in April 2015. Increased cost for water heater replacement or installation, larger sized units, increased noise and changes in venting are just a few of the effects the new regulations will have on homeowners.

An article from Plumbing Perspective Magazine details the impact of the new energy efficiency requirements on homeowners. Perspective Magazine interviewed Ralph Perez, director of product management at A.O. Smith and Chad Sanborn, product marketing manager at Bradford White Water Heaters. A.O. Smith and Bradford White are two of the three manufacturers of water heaters in the United States.

‘One result of the new EF mandate is that homeowners will likely face increased product and installation costs for a replacement water heater that complies with the 2015 efficiency standards. ‘How much more will depend on the type and size of water heater they require to meet their needs,’ Perez said. ‘In some cases, homeowners may incur additional expense for the installation of equipment that is physically larger or uses a different technology than the old unit they are replacing.’

For example, a homeowner might decide to purchase a heat pump water heater or one of the highly efficient gas water heaters. Homeowners might face additional expenses related changes to the venting for gas, adding a 120-volt outlet or making provisions for the disposal of condensate.

‘In some cases, the water heater may have to be relocated to operate properly or to mitigate noise,’ said Sanborn. ‘While the operating cost of the new water heaters will be less because of their increased energy efficiency, it is likely that the maintenance costs will increase because of a more sophisticated design, and the integration of electronics, blowers, fans, condensers, or other components.’

Another drawback is that a new water heater is likely to have lower hot water deliverability than prior models. ‘For example, a model with less input may be required to achieve the higher efficiency, which will ultimately result in less hot water delivered,’ Sanborn said.

On the positive side, the energy savings from the new technology can help offset some of the product and installation costs. ‘The savings realized will depend on the type of product sold,’ said Perez. *cont.*



Maeser
Bath Design Studio

Featured showroom
bathroom design

Another beautiful bathroom from the bathroom remodeling team features a pebbled-styled shower floor with a neo-angled tiled bench. There is a 12" x12" straight-patterned floor to ceiling wall tile in Coastal beige with a recessed niche for soap and shampoo. The 8" linear feature strip is Travertine.

The plumbing fixture in the shower is a Moen dual-function control shower trim with hand held and rain shower head in brushed nickel. The framed-hinged shower door is a brushed nickel with matching tile base board.

This bathroom includes a 48" custom-made chocolate-stained vanity with cultured granite counter top which includes a wide-spread Moen Kingsley brushed-nickel faucet.

The wood-framed mirror matches the stain of the vanity with two brushed nickel sconces.

A 24" brushed-nickel towel bar, towel ring and robe hook was included. The commode is a white comfort-height Kohler Cimarron. Flooring consists of a straight-patterned 12" x 12" tile.

Maeser's Bath Design Studio features all of the design elements necessary to make your bathroom dream a reality. Our Studio features examples of lighting, flooring, tile, shower walls, counter tops, custom-made vanities, fixtures, mirrors and much more.

Give us a call for a free estimate. Our Studio can be an integral tool to beginning your bathroom remodeling process.



QUACKS

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• Attitude of Gratitude

Congratulations to our latest **\$500 winner: Parents Left Behind, Inc.** They offer support to parents no matter the age of their child at the time of loss, from miscarriage to adult.

• New Year wishes!

Maeser would like to take this opportunity to wish our loyal customers the best of wishes for a wonderful new year! Thank you for calling on us for all your plumbing, heating, cooling, geothermal or bathroom remodeling needs. We appreciate you!

Prepare for the 2015 new energy-efficient water heater mandates!

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Any water heater installation



'Homeowners who purchase highly efficient condensing gas or heat pump electric water heaters can anticipate average savings ranging from \$60 for natural gas and more than \$300 for electric,' Perez said. 'Electric heat pump water heaters may also provide some welcome supplemental cooling and dehumidification resulting from the heat pump system,' he added. 'Of course actual savings realized vary depending on actual hot water use and local energy costs.'"

Maeser Master Services is proactively preparing our service technicians for these new water heater design and installation changes. Our technicians are being trained and educated about the changes in the process of installation, replacement, and maintenance of the new water heater designs and installation requirements. Our technicians can answer questions and aid our customers in understanding the new changes and water heater options and in making a choice when it is time for a new water heater.

Welcome Sharon

We would like to welcome Sharon Compton to the Maeser team. Sharon is in charge of scheduling and dispatching in our HVAC department. Previously, Sharon owned a company called Clean Away Heating and Air and decided to merge with Maeser in order to provide her customers with faster and better service. Maeser is honored to get the opportunity to service Clean Away customers now that Sharon has joined us. She wants to remind all of her loyal customers that Maeser assures 100% satisfaction after they have been to your home, just like she used to do. Welcome, Sharon!



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just ducky recipes...

Crock Pot Cream Cheese Chicken Chili

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ingredients: | 1 packet Ranch Dressing mix |
| 1.5 lbs chicken breast | 1 tbsp cumin |
| 1 (10 oz) can Rotel tomatoes | 1 tsp chili powder |
| 1 can corn, do not drain | 1 tsp onion powder |
| 1 can black beans, drained/rinsed | 8 oz Greek Yogurt Cream Cheese |

Directions:

Place chicken in crockpot and add remaining ingredients, Rotel through onion powder. Stir to coat chicken. Add cream cheese. Cook on low 6-8 hours. Stir after 2-3 hours to mix in cream cheese. Shred chicken before serving.

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