

Heat pump tips for businesses

Tens of thousands of heat pumps have been installed in Massachusetts businesses because they are one of the most energy-efficient ways to heat and cool. This technology offers greater flexibility and sustainability than the conventional heating systems you may be familiar with. If you've recently made the switch to heat pumps, or are considering it, check out these tips on how you can make the most out of your commercial heat pump system.

Heat pump maintenance

- **Clean your air filters.** When your filters get dirty, it can affect your heat pump's efficiency. Check the filters regularly. The location of your units, and other factors can impact how often they need cleaning.
- **Keep your outdoor unit clean and clear.** To operate efficiently, outdoor units need space for proper airflow. Check your outdoor unit regularly. When needed, clear away fallen leaves or snow and trim nearby shrubs.
- **Have your heat pump serviced.** With any heating and cooling system, it's important to have your equipment regularly serviced to extend its lifespan and keep it running efficiently. To ensure peak performance, contact your installation provider to discuss a service plan that follows manufacturer recommendations.
- **Check refrigerant lines.** The adhesive on refrigerant lines can fail over time and should be checked periodically. No copper lines should be exposed in a heat pump system. Any visible copper is a place where heat can escape or condensation can form.
- **Check condensate lines.** When switching from heating to cooling seasons, lines can get clogged causing leaks. Keep an eye on them to ensure optimal performance.
- **Check sealants.** The foam sealing around refrigerant lines can wear over time, causing performance issues, and even allowing animals to enter the building. Check for a proper seal to ensure no performance issues with your system.



Settings and use

- **Use your heat pump year-round.**

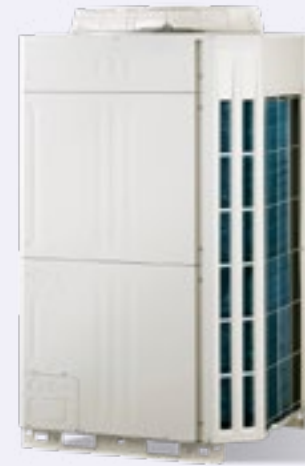
High-performance heat pumps are the most energy-efficient heating systems. With both heating and cooling settings, heat pumps are an all-in-one solution that keep you comfortable year round.

- **Keep a consistent temperature.** Turning your heat pump on and off, or constantly adjusting its temperature settings, may actually increase energy usage. Heat pumps operate most efficiently when holding a steady temperature. Choose a temperature setting based on comfort for each season, and enjoy peace of mind knowing your heat pumps are keeping you comfortable and still running efficiently.

- **No need for auto mode.** When the temperature outside is mild, a heat pump's auto mode can sometimes result in the system switching back and forth between heating and cooling. To prevent this, set the heat pump to cooling mode during the spring and summer, and heating mode during the fall and winter.

Synergy with your business

- **Seal in sustainability.** When you weatherize your business, you help your heat pumps operate at optimal efficiency. High-performance air sealing, duct sealing, insulation, windows, and doors can help to keep hot or cold air from escaping your building.
- **Prioritize your heat pump.** Some business owners may opt to keep their pre-existing heating system as a backup or to heat a separate area. In these situations, it's important to make sure the existing system and the heat pumps don't compete. This may mean setting the boiler or furnace thermostat to a lower temperature, closing a radiator or damper in the rooms served by the heat pump, or installing integrated controls.
- **Switch over at preset temperatures.** Integrated controls can automatically switch between a heat pump and backup heating system at a pre-set outdoor air temperature. Please note, the most cost-optimal switchover temperature will depend on the backup system's fuel source.



For more information about commercial heat pumps, contact your contractor, your National Grid Account representative directly, **call 1-800-690-1284** or visit **ngrid.com/heatpumps**.