

# Pull the Plug on a Big Energy Drain

Your pool pump could be your **home's second largest energy user**, costing you up to \$260 in electric bills every year. Pool pumps that have earned the ENERGY STAR are independently certified to save energy, save you money and help protect the environment. In fact:

- Certified in-ground pool pumps use **18% less energy** than standard pool pumps and can **save \$290 over the lifetime** of the product.
- Certified above-ground pool pumps use 11% less energy and can save \$80 over the lifetime of the product.
- ENERGY STAR certified pool pumps run quieter and prolong the life of your pool's filtering system.

#### **Let's Get Technical**

Conventional pool pumps can deliver only high flow regardless of the task assigned—even though filtration, the number one task of a pool pump, requires half the flow (using 1/8 the power) of pool cleaning.

ENERGY STAR certified pool pumps save energy by using efficient motors, advanced hydraulic designs, and variable or two-speed technology to deliver the appropriate flow for water filtration, fountains, and cleaning.

## **Splashing with Savings**

ENERGY STAR certified products deliver savings based on the type and size. An in-ground pool pump that has earned the ENERGY STAR label can save you hundreds of dollars over the lifetime of the product and has no additional upfront cost compared to standard models. ENERGY STAR certified models also include small size pool pumps, pressure cleaner boosters, and above ground pool pumps.<sup>1</sup>

## **Dive into Savings with Utility Rebates**

Many utilities offer incentives for purchasing an ENERGY STAR certified pool pump. Table 1 shows several examples from across the country.

Check with your local utility for more details or go to www.energystar.gov/rebatefinder.

Table 1: ENERGY STAR Certified Pool Pump Rebates

State	Utility	Incentive
CA	WATER & POWER Bring Calify Calify Calify	\$200
ні	Hawaii Energy	\$125
MD	Colmarva power. An Exelan Company	\$400
OK	PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF OKLAHOMA	\$400
NH	EVERS <del>©</del> URCE	\$350



#### Is it Time to Take the Plunge?

The most obvious sign that you need a pool pump is when the motor is completely dead. However, there are other warning signs that could mean it's time to call a pool services contractor, such as when your existing pool pump:

- Is seven to ten years old
- Does not seem to be as powerful
- Continuously makes noise
- Gets hot and shuts off
- Hums or buzzes but will not start
- Starts slowly

## **Choosing the Right Pool Services Contractor**



When looking for a pool services contractor, you should confirm your contractor is insured and has the appropriate qualifications for installing a new pool pump, such as:

- Affiliated with pool builders or retailers of pool supplies
- Certified as an Aquatic Energy Auditor by the Foundation for Pool and Spa Industry Education
- Certified by a pool pump manufacturer
- Licensed to perform pool services in your state

Your contractor should include the following steps as part of the set-up process to ensure your ENERGY STAR pool pump is properly installed to maximize energy savings.

- Inspecting the pool area and identifying possible hazards, then ensuring the area is ready for maintenance and pool pump replacement.
- Calculating the volume of the swimming pool to determine the total amount of flow required to adequately circulate.
- Determining the wattage use of the existing pool pump and amount of usage on a daily basis to estimate total annual energy use of the pump.
- Estimating expected usage of new pump to calculate expected energy use and savings.
- Calibrating the flow of the new pool pump to obtain adequate circulation at the lowest possible motor speed. The minimum speed required is one that would lead to a 12-hour turnover (per ANSI/NSPI-5 2003).
  - Turnover is the period of time required to circulate a volume of water equal to the pool's volume.

<sup>1</sup> Each year, over one million seasonal temporary above-ground pools are purchased that can cost only a few hundred dollars and include a small pool pump. The ENERGY STAR pool pump specification does not cover these types of pool pumps--known as integral pumps because the filter (sand or cartridge) is integrated within the pump housing.

If every pool pump sold in the U.S. were ENERGY STAR certified, families could save nearly \$240 million each year in energy costs and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equal to more than 400,000 cars.