

Our Path to Affordable Decarbonization

Our journey toward affordable decarbonization is guided by three key pillars. The first is Energy Efficiency and Customer Solutions, enabling homes and businesses to optimize energy use and lower emissions. The second is advancing Cleaner Molecules, fostering the shift to greener energy sources. The third is Superior Operations, focused on improving our processes to reduce environmental impact. These pillars collectively support our vision for a sustainable and cost-effective energy future.



Energy Efficiency and Customer Solutions

We support emissions reductions and increased energy efficiency in homes and businesses.

- Appliance efficiency and weatherization
- Geothermal networks
- Carbon capture and utilization



1.3 million metric tons of CO2 emissions avoided since 2011 through energy efficiency programs

Cleaner Molecules

Our state-of-the-art infrastructure helps enable the growth of clean fuels.

- Renewable Fuels
- Sustainable Gas Supply
- Hydrogen



First biogas interconnect with Air Liquide's RNG facility, their largest in the world. Projected to produce 1.3 MMBtu per year

Superior Operations

We leverage the latest technologies to prevent, identify and mitigate emissions.

- Direct measurement
- Infrastructure modernization
- Advanced leak detection and repair



Through investments in pipeline and infrastructure modernization, we reduced our annual operational emissions by nearly 500,000 MtCO2e over 2009 to 2019 - a 54% reduction over that 10-year period.



Builder Concierge Services

We're excited to announce the upcoming pilot launch of our Builder Concierge Service, debuting in the first quarter of 2025! This new service will be tested in collaboration with several of our builder partners, offering tailored, comprehensive support throughout the building and onboarding process. The Builder Concierge Service is designed to provide personalized assistance, address any questions or concerns and connect you with a variety of energy efficiency resources and programs. Our goal is to enhance your experience with Nicor Gas. Stay tuned for more updates in 2025!

Discover how to save money and energy by heating your home more efficiently with a gas heat pump

Residential gas heat pumps (GHPs) are an exceptionally energy-efficient technology used for both space heating and water heating. GHPs capture heat from the outdoor ambient air, supplementing natural gas as an energy source, and then transfer it indoors for heating. This process allows residential GHPs to enhance overall efficiency and perform more effectively in cold climates compared to their electric counterparts.

| Benefits | Details |
|--------------------------|--|
| High Efficiency | GHPs use the heat energy generated from natural gas and outdoor air to achieve efficiencies greater than 100% |
| Sustainability | Ammonia is used as a refrigerant, which has a zero global warming potential. |
| Home Comfort | GHPs supply heating and operate efficiently in cold climates up to -40°F -no backup unit is required. |
| Affordability | No infrastructure upgrades are required, and GHPs have lower operating cost compared to existing equipment or electric heat pumps. |
| Easy Installation | GHPs are a plug and play installation, replacing a furnace and integrating with existing ductwork. |

Learn more at: [Trade Allies](#)



Stewardship: Our Commitment to the Community

At Nicor Gas, we are committed to giving back to the communities we serve. Our stewardship initiatives emphasize local development, environmental conservation and educational programs. We strive to foster a culture of responsibility and care, ensuring that our actions pave the way to a better future. By partnering with builders, we aim to make a positive impact, improving the quality of life for residents and contributing to the overall well-being of our communities.

Over the past two years, Nicor Gas has awarded \$10,000 in grants to Nuts, Bolts and

Thingamajigs (NBT), the charitable foundation of the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association based in Elgin. NBT organizes summer manufacturing programs that introduce youth to the manufacturing trades through hands-on projects and experiential learning. Students participating in Summer Manufacturing Camps gain a unique hands-on experience that can inspire confidence and develop technical, analytical and communication skills. Camp topics include basic machining, fabrication, welding skills and 3D printing skills.



Smart Neighborhood™ Builder Program

The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program has upgraded our previous Residential New Construction offering to provide even more incentives. Our new Smart Neighborhood™ Builder Program continues to reward builders who use energy efficient practices in home construction, but now includes additional incentives for smart energy product solutions. Designed to help save money and reduce carbon footprints, the program features four incentive tiers: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Certified Smart Neighborhood™ Builder, with the opportunity to earn up to \$825 per home.



Scan to
learn more.



Join the High- Performance Windows Pilot!

Nicor Gas is thrilled to announce a new pilot program for homebuilders, focusing on high-performance windows. In conjunction with the Smart Neighborhood Builder Program, this pilot helps homebuilders explore the numerous benefits of ENERGY STAR® v7 windows, including enhanced energy efficiency, reduced outside noise and improved

occupant comfort. It's no surprise that the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) highlights ENERGY STAR® windows as a top priority for new home buyers! Builders can receive up to 100% of the cost difference between a standard code-compliant window and an ENERGY STAR® window, up to \$100 per window. Don't miss this opportunity to add value to your homes and distinguish your new builds! For more information, please contact Brady Nemeth (bnemeth@resource-innovations.com) and Rohith Mannam (romannam@southernco.com).



Nicor Gas and Habitat for Humanity Launch Second Smart Neighborhood™ in Carpentersville

Nicor Gas entered the second phase of its Smart Neighborhoods initiative in the Chicagoland area. The new Smart Neighborhood™ will be built in Carpentersville, Illinois, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Northern Fox Valley. The first community is already under development in Aurora, Ill. with Fox Valley's Habitat affiliate.

The new community will consist of 13 single-family homes, forming part of Carter Crossing, a 28-home, net zero subdivision in Carpentersville. These net-zero homes produce more energy through renewable resources than they consume. Nicor Gas refers to these homes as CARE communities (Carbon-neutral, Affordable, Resilient and Efficient) because they showcase resilient and sustainable solutions for all income levels. The neighborhoods feature a high efficiency building envelope, integrate solar panels and energy storage and utilize energy efficient appliances to ensure manageable energy bills for homeowners. Eligible residents are all first-time homeowners who benefit from a zero-interest mortgage.

Nicor Gas has been at the forefront of providing equitable pathways to sustainability for its customers and communities. The company has been collaborating with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the U.S. Department of Energy's Zero Energy Ready Home program.

"We are proud to continue our partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Northern Fox Valley as we work together to make home ownership with critical energy efficient, smart technology a reality," said Meena Beyers, vice president of Business and Community Development at Nicor Gas. "This project represents the importance of providing affordable, innovative and sustainable solutions for all our customers. Everyone deserves the opportunity to lower their carbon footprint and be a part of a smarter and cleaner energy future in Chicagoland."

To learn more about the Smart Neighborhood™ Initiative, please visit [NGSmartNeighborhoods.com](https://www.NGSmartNeighborhoods.com).



Get To Know Us – Meet Paula

In this winter edition of our newsletter, we are thrilled to introduce Paula, a dedicated customer development specialist in our Builder's First Department. Paula is instrumental in assisting builders through the new construction process, ensuring orders are processed and completed smoothly. She is always prepared to handle inquiries, offer guidance on applications and utilize her extensive knowledge of street locations within subdivisions. Paula's expertise in navigating the evolving landscape at Nicor Gas has made her an invaluable member of our team. Her dedication to exceptional customer care guarantees that our builders receive the support they need at every stage.

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[#FutureOfEnergy](https://www.instagram.com/FutureOfEnergy)

