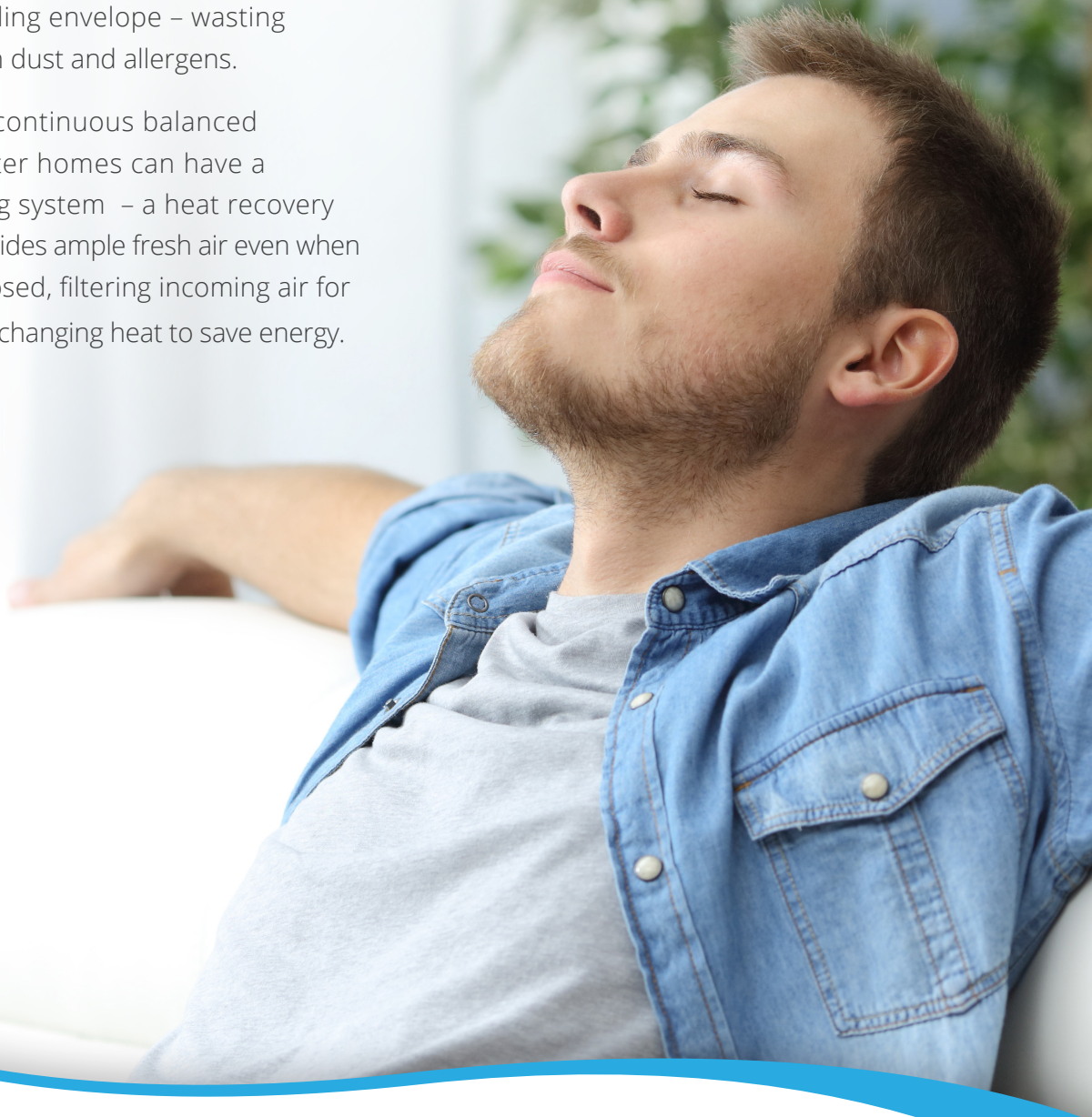


# Come Home to Fresh Air

## **Consider a heat recovery ventilator.**

Most homes inefficiently exchange air through cracks in their building envelope – wasting energy and letting in dust and allergens.

All homes require continuous balanced ventilation but better homes can have a dedicated breathing system – a heat recovery ventilator – that provides ample fresh air even when the windows are closed, filtering incoming air for better health and exchanging heat to save energy.



## **Rebates Available**

A heat recovery ventilator (HRV) is one of many components that work together to make your home a better home

**Ask your builder or renovator how this feature could transform your home!**

# Heat Recovery Ventilator

Mechanical ventilation and filtration with a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) is an essential means of providing fresh air and maintaining healthy indoor air quality in a modern, well-sealed and insulated energy-efficient home. Older homes, and less efficient new homes, may have higher heating and cooling costs, poor indoor air quality, and higher humidity levels because they have insufficient ventilation systems and leak air and moisture through cracks and holes in the building envelope. Once a home has achieved an air tightness of 3 air changes per hour (measured at 50 pascals), or lower, a heat recovery ventilator should be a requirement.

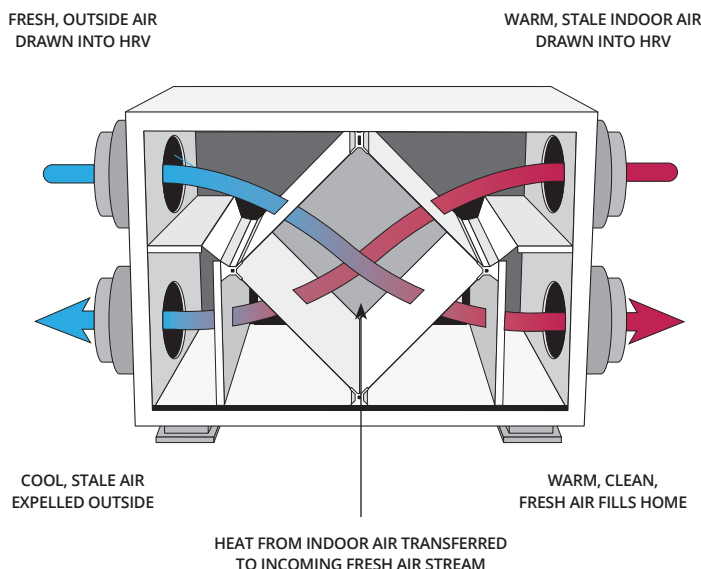
## What are the Benefits?

- **Breathe easier:** Stale air is replaced by a continuous supply of fresh air in your home. Air filtration also significantly reduces the particulate concentration in indoor air caused by climate change events such as forest fire smoke.
- **Superior health:** Enhanced indoor air quality by exhausting indoor pollutants and introducing filtered fresh air.
- **Improved comfort:** More even temperatures through improved air circulation.
- **Energy savings:** Recovers heat normally lost through conventional ventilation systems, reducing energy costs and your carbon footprint.

## How does it Work?

An HRV is a balanced ventilation system that uses a heat exchanger and a series of ducts and fans to blow stale air outside and bring filtered fresh air inside.

The HRV reduces heat loss by exchanging heat from outgoing stale air to warm up incoming fresh air. It also exhausts excess humidity to the outdoors.



## What are the Costs?

The average cost for purchasing and installing an HRV vary. Factors that influence the cost include the size of your home, the model/brand and efficiency rating of the equipment and potentially the quality of the installation and system balancing. Be sure to get multiple quotes from contractors to compare costs, installation approach and warranties.

## The Right System for Your Home

Getting optimal performance from a new HRV depends on more than just choosing the right equipment.

- **Consult with experts:** Ask your builder, renovator, or energy advisor how this feature could transform your home.
- **Buy quality:** Look for an HRV system with a high sensible recovery efficiency (SRE) rating to ensure a quality system.
- **Use an accredited installer:** Contact a trained TECA (Thermal Environmental Comfort Association of BC) or HRAI (Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada) installer.
- **Ensure optimal performance:** The quality of the installation can have an enormous effect on system performance and home comfort. Ask a builder, contractor or installer questions to ensure your system is properly sized and commissioned for optimal performance.
- **Maintain your equipment:** Similar to servicing a vehicle, preventive maintenance is a good investment to minimize future problems. Arrange for annual servicing, keep the unit clean and inspect air filters every 1-3 months. Consult the owner's manual for details.

## Your Home Energy Label

A high-efficiency HRV is one of many components that work together to make an energy-efficient home. Ask your new construction builder or renovator to have a registered energy advisor provide an EnerGuide rating and label to recognize your investment and verify the energy efficiency of your entire home.

## Rebates are Available

- **CleanBC Better Homes**  
[www.betterhomesbc.ca](http://www.betterhomesbc.ca)
- **BC Hydro Residential Rebates**  
[www.bchydro.com/rebates](http://www.bchydro.com/rebates)
- **FortisBC Residential Rebates**  
[www.fortisbc.com/rebates](http://www.fortisbc.com/rebates)