



AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY BENEFITS FOR SENIORS

According to the American Lung Association's ['State of the Air' report](#), nearly 4 in 10 Americans are affected by unhealthy air quality nationwide. In Arizona, this figure is particularly alarming, with 84% of the population residing in areas with poor air quality. Phoenix ranks 5th among cities with the most unhealthy ozone days and consistently earns an 'F' grade for dangerous ozone and particulate pollution.

Poor air quality contributes significantly to various public health issues, including childhood asthma attacks, impaired lung function and development, lung cancer, increased risk of heart attacks for older adults, stroke, and premature deaths. These impacts disproportionately affect children, older adults, low-income households, and communities of color.

In Arizona, 83% of residents consider air pollution a serious problem, as reported by the American Lung Association. A majority of voters support clean energy initiatives such as transitioning to zero-emission vehicles and expanding the use of solar and wind power. These measures are aimed at reducing harmful emissions and improving air quality for communities across the state.

THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT:

- Arizonans won big with the unprecedented climate and clean energy investments approved in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). These new investments will improve air quality, energy efficiency, accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy, and lower energy costs for Arizona families and seniors.
- As Arizonans continue to experience poor air quality, it is more important than ever to leverage these critical investments to prioritize clean air for the health and safety of our communities and mitigate the impacts of air pollution.
- The Inflation Reduction Act contains numerous climate and clean energy investments to help lower energy costs for Arizona seniors. These investments could help the average household save up to \$1,000 on energy and gas bills each year.

CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY INVESTMENTS:

- **\$9 billion in consumer home energy rebate programs** to help low-income seniors switch to electric home appliances and afford the cost of energy-saving home retrofits. For more information about switching to electric for renters and homeowners, visit the [Department of Energy](#).
- **\$3.7 billion in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funding**, which is utilized for heating/cooling assistance, home energy equipment repair and replacement, and minor energy-related home repairs. Arizonans can determine their eligibility and apply for LIHEAP through the [Department of Economic Security](#).
 - [LIHEAP Eligibility Tool](#)

- **Rebates for the purchase of new and used clean energy vehicles** to be used toward the purchase of a new electric vehicle or up to \$4,000 toward the purchase of a used electric vehicle for low- and moderate-income seniors.
 - [EV Shopper Checklist](#)
- **\$47.5 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program** to help pay for home-repair projects that will result in directly lowering home energy bills. To learn more about WAP, visit the Arizona [Department of Housing](#).
- **\$8.3 million for the Clean School Bus Rebate Program** enabling 10 Arizona school districts to purchase 30 clean buses, cutting carbon emissions, improving air quality for children, and promoting a healthier environment by advancing the adoption of low- and zero-emission vehicles. To learn which districts have been awarded visit the [Environmental Protection Agency](#).

REBATES, TAX CREDITS, AND GRANTS:

New rebates, tax credits, and grants becoming available in 2024 will make it more affordable for seniors to convert their homes from fossil-fuel-based to electricity-based heating and cooling, including the following.

- Up to **\$14,000** in rebates to switch over to electric appliances.
- **10 years of consumer tax credits** to make homes energy efficient and run on clean energy, making heat pumps, rooftop solar, electric HVAC, and water heaters more affordable.
- An alternative rebate option covers **more than 80% of the cost** of whole-home energy efficiency measures for low- and moderate-income households, and **more than 50%** for wealthier households.
- **Rebates and grants** to support energy-efficient upgrades and improvements in multifamily homes and affordable housing.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS:

Several water conservation and drought mitigation investments will impact Arizonans, including the following projects and plans:

- **\$4 billion** to be invested for drought resiliency in Western states, with priority to the Colorado River Basin.
- More than **\$50 million** will be allocated to drought relief projects, specifically in Arizona.
- **\$300 million** to implement the Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plan