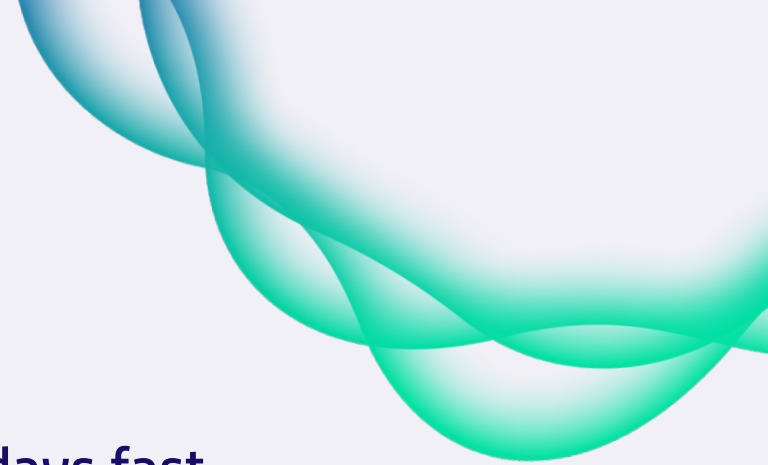




# 5 Ways to Ensure Your Heating Functions Perfectly This Coming Season



**With crisp fall and winter days fast approaching, now is the best time to assess your building's energy usage.**

**Having the most energy efficient heating system can help keep energy bills down without losing warmth in the winter.**

While it may not be time to replace your existing equipment, regular maintenance is critical to keep your system running as expected. If you are ready to upgrade, PECO offers financial incentives and has the technical expertise to guide you toward reductions in energy use and financial savings.



## Measures that Save Energy and Money

If completely replacing your HVAC system isn't necessary, alternative options, such as HVAC controls, or adding VFDs, can improve your HVAC system's efficiency. These solutions are incentivized by PECO. Upgrading to LEDs with controls and electric water heating can also help lower your energy expenses.

PECO incentivizes additional energy efficient upgrades. The more energy measures you impact — heating, lighting and cooling — the more you'll save on your monthly energy bills.

## Proper Maintenance is Key

Your heating system is your most considerable energy expense during winter months. As equipment ages, it becomes less efficient and effective, and more costly to repair. If you haven't already inspected, maintained or repaired your heating system, do so now to avoid additional unexpected disruptions this winter. By planning and taking the proactive steps outlined below, you will prevent system downtime, uncomfortable occupants, wasted energy and expensive emergency repairs.

## Top Five Ways to Ensure Your Heating Functions Perfectly This Winter:

### 1. Inspect and clean equipment and components

- Hire a professional HVAC contractor if someone in-house isn't trained or available to do so
- Depending on your specific system, focus on these overall areas:
  - Burner assembly
  - Heat exchanger
  - Flue system
  - Carbon monoxide levels: ensure they're within acceptable limits
  - Gas pressure
  - Electrical connections: ensure wires aren't frayed or damaged, and replace them if needed
  - Motor bearings and moveable parts: lubricate if not moving as intended
  - Replace belts if worn or damaged
  - Boiler tubes: check for scale build-up, which can inhibit heat transfer

### 2. Ensure proper airflow

- Anything that obstructs airflow will cause your heating system to work harder, which leads to more energy use and strain on your equipment
- Clean or replace air filters
- Clear anything blocking vents such as furniture, desks or other equipment

### 3. Minimize heat loss

- The heat that escapes is wasted energy and wasted money
- Ductwork is a common area where leaks occur
  - Seal leaks with mastic tape
  - Ducts that radiate heat are a sign of heat loss: insulate them
- Doors and windows
  - Check the weatherstripping around doors and windows: replace cracked or damaged weatherstripping
  - Replace cracked window panes
  - Ensure doors and windows close correctly: repair them if they don't
- Insulate to recommended levels: consult the ASHRAE 90.1 standard for building energy efficiency

### 4. Implement controls and ensure they are properly set up and calibrated

- Adjust system operations and temperature settings based on your operating schedule, current weather conditions or building occupancy
- If you've already implemented controls, ensure they are still calibrated and performing as intended; controls and systems can drift as your facility changes over time

### 5. Replace aging equipment

- Replace equipment before it fails to save on repairs and avoid the stress and expense of emergency replacement
- Planning ahead gives you a wider range of equipment options
- High-efficiency boilers, packaged systems or heat pumps offer long-term savings

- ▶ To learn more about incentives to save on high-efficiency HVAC systems and controls, visit [peco.com/business](https://peco.com/business).