

## NOT ALL 'ENERGY STAR' WINDOWS QUALIFY FOR THE \$1,500 TAX CREDIT ON WINDOWS

*Windows must meet a .30 or less U-factor AND a .30 or less Solar Heat Gain Coefficient*

### RIVERTOWN WINDOWS MEETS ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CREDIT!

On February 17, 2009, the stimulus bill (The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) was signed into law and made some significant changes to the energy efficiency tax credits. The highlights are:

*The tax credits that were previously effective for 2009 have been extended to 2010 as well.*

*The tax credit has been raised from 10% to 30%.*

*The tax credits that were for a specific dollar amount have been converted to 30% of the cost.*

*The maximum credit has been raised from \$500 to \$1500 for the next two years (2009 and 2010).*

*The \$200 cap on windows has been removed.*

***The \$1,500 tax credit is available only on windows that have a U-Factor of .30 or less and a SHGC of .30 or less.***

Consumers considering replacing their windows in 2009 and 2010 are eligible for a \$1,500 tax credit on energy efficient products. However, not all energy efficient products qualify for the tax credits. In order to qualify for the tax credit, the new windows installed must meet a .30 or less U-Factor and a .30 or less Solar Heat Gain Coefficient.

**Not many manufacturers in the window industry currently meet these standards but Rivertown Windows meets and exceeds them.**

Many manufacturers will emphasize Energy Star rated products but the national standards for Energy Star are significantly less than the government requirements to qualify for the tax credit of \$1,500. The tax credits are **only** available for the highest efficiency levels.

#### **What is a U-Factor Rating?**

This rating measures how well a product prevents heat from escaping a home or building based on conditions of 0 degrees outside and 70 degrees inside. The lower the U-Factor, the better the product is at reducing heat loss.

#### **What is Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) Rating?**

This rating measures how well a product blocks heat from the sun. The lower the number, the better the product is at blocking unwanted heat gain.

**Rivertown Windows**, a Grand Rapids, MI based window and door company, builds a replacement window that has a U-Factor as low as .16 and a SHGC as low as .18. Rivertown Windows are constructed from a multi-chambered PVC compound that offers superior noise reduction and insulation from temperature changes. Each frame has 22 chambers—a design meant to compensate for high, medium and low temperatures—so that the frames will be more resistant to the expansion and contraction associated with temperature fluctuations.

In addition to purchasing a window with a low U-Factor and a low SHGC, the consumer should also consider air resistance ratings. Air tightness (air resistance) is measured by applying 75 pascals of pressure—the equivalent of a steady 25 mph wind—to the outside of the window. Interior air filtration is then measured in cubic feet per minute per foot of window joint. Many manufacturers do not publish their air resistance ratings because the Department of Energy and NFRC have not mandated this testing but Rivertown Windows has one of the lowest air filtration rates ever recorded. Keep in mind the importance of air resistance when considering a quality replacement window.

It is also important to remember that 80% of your window is glass. Many manufacturers only offer the standard Low E glass. Rivertown Windows has utilized the latest technology to develop glass systems to meet the individual needs of your home or business, from clear glass to Heat Mirror glass.

**Rivertown Windows provides quality energy efficient glass systems that surpass the competition and well exceed the standards for the new Federal Tax Credits in The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

**Rivertown Windows would love to help you achieve greater energy efficiency in your home that also qualifies you for the \$1,500 tax credit.**

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