

News Release

Shop Maryland Energy Weekend Runs Saturday Through Monday

Comptroller Franchot encourages customers to shop local, get tax-free deals and protect the environment with ENERGY STAR appliances

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (February 16, 2022) - Comptroller Peter Franchot reminds Marylanders they can save the environment *and* their hard-earned dollars during [Shop Maryland Energy Weekend](#), which runs this weekend, February 19-21.

The following appliances bearing the ENERGY STAR label, purchased in-store or online, will be exempt from the state's six percent sales tax: air conditioners, washers and dryers, standard-size refrigerators, furnaces, heat pumps, boilers, compact fluorescent light bulbs (not LED), dehumidifiers and programmable thermostats. Solar water heaters are tax-exempt year-round.

"This is a great time to replace your outdated appliances with something more modern and energy efficient while not having to pay the state sales tax," Comptroller Franchot said. "Many manufacturers, retailers and utility companies offer additional deals in addition to the money you'll save from lower utility bills over the life of the product, so the savings really add up."

The Comptroller urges Marylanders to make their purchases at locally-owned retailers that count on these sales during an otherwise slow time of year.

To receive the [ENERGY STAR](#) label, a product must meet strict standards for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In 2018, ENERGY STAR-certified products helped consumers save 200 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, avoid \$35 billion in energy costs, and achieve 150 million metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions.

The tax-free weekend for energy-efficient appliances began in 2011 and its impact has grown ever since. It's estimated the state loses \$800,000 in direct tax revenue on the purchase of ENERGY STAR products, but additional sales on other

taxable products generates unanticipated tax dollars while the environmental impact carries massive financial benefits.

Save 6% sales tax
on the following qualifying
Energy Star products.

 **Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs**

 **Programmable Thermostats**

 **Dehumidifiers**

 **Air Conditioners**

 **Washers and Dryers**

 **Solar Water Heaters**

 **Standard-size Refrigerators**

 **Furnaces
Heat Pumps
Boilers**

 **COMPTROLLER
of MARYLAND**
Serving the People

**SHOP
MARYLAND
ENERGY** 

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