

Bergen Residents Tap Latest Hot Water Innovation to Save Energy

Here's something to think about during the winter months: Did you know that the average water heater lasts between eight and 12 years?

Keyspan Energy statistics show on average a household (depending on size and age of water heater) spends about \$50 a month on maintaining hot water in the tank. Wouldn't it be great if we can save on our energy bills and increase the life expectancy of our water heaters?

After residents in Teaneck participated in a presentation about a revolutionary product called ShabbHOT™ at Congregation Beth Aaron in mid December, it became clear that this product would become a milestone in Jewish homes for use during the Sabbath. What we also found out was that the average residential homeowner will find additional safety improvements previously unavailable. They can also benefit from significant energy savings and preserve the life span of the water heater.

"It's as if water heaters gain an extra life from a concept in religion," said master plumber Joseph Gove, the North Jersey certified installer for ShabbHOT, who has installed the unit in more than two dozen homes since ShabbHOT hit the market just two months ago.

All you need is the brand, model and serial number of your current water heater to determine compatibility. Gove discussed the rabbinic review process and approval for using hot water from the tap on the Sabbath. He suggests consulting with the ShabbHOT Website (www.ShabbHOT.com) and your local rabbi for further questions.

With ShabbHOT, Gove said

that religious individuals can now make use of hot water for normal activities taken for granted during the week, yet prohibited on the Sabbath, including washing dishes, bathing a baby, using hot water because of certain medical conditions (arthritis) or for simply washing your hands with warm water on a cold winter day.

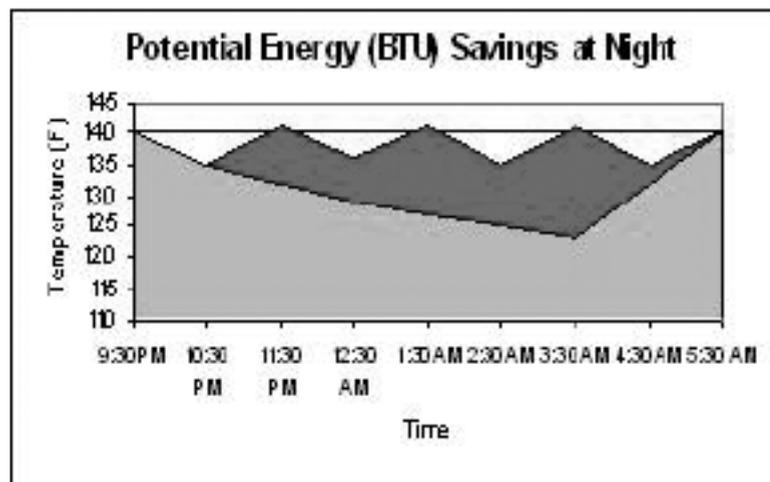
Gove further stated the technology will allow families to bring back the beauty and enjoyment of the Sabbath in a more natural atmosphere. "The Sabbath is a time when

more people get together than any other time during the week. We live in a modern society where you would think the use of hot water should be available at all times, even during the Sabbath, but the reality is that

this has not been the case until now."

ShabbHOT was originally conceived by Sterling Water Heaters Corp. (www.sterlingwaterheaters.com) as a way to remain observant with the rules of the Sabbath. Gove points out that people will no longer have to hesitate using a sink with a single lever faucet. "People are too concerned about inadvertently transgressing the laws of the Sabbath and this will permit them to avoid any transgression."

ShabbHOT was developed to have four settings (Awake, Away, Home and Sleep modes) plus manual and "Shabbos" modes designed as a 5/2 day thermostat. The first four allow you to set the water heater temperature through a thermostat similar to controlling your typical heating or air conditioning. If the temperature is lowered, then the unit will automatically fire less, resulting in less fuel consump-



tion (gas or electric), and an increased life span of your water heater.

In addition, the "Shabbos" and manual modes allow you to override the programming according to your desired Sabbath needs. The ShabbHOT unit is specially designed to randomly fire the water heater, preventing direct action when using hot water.

Users are able to read the temperature consistently and its accuracy ensures that the temperature always remains below 105 degrees Fahrenheit.

From a safety perspective, throughout the U.S. there are tens of thousands of occurrences of children getting scalded as a result of fluctuating water heater temperatures. At 135 degrees Fahrenheit, it takes five minutes for someone to develop a third degree burn. The ShabbHOT unit prevents burns and scalding as a result of its ability to control the temperatures to a specific degree.

At night, ShabbHOT allows you to maintain a lower temperature when the water heater is not in use, saving the consumer from the higher expenses they had no control over before. In addition, the unit complies with the U.S. Department of Energy guidelines, where they estimate consumers can save roughly \$132 a year on energy bills.

The controller fits in the palm of your hand, just larger than the size of an iPod™. It also uses three AAA batteries that

stores the time, programming and current modes as set by the user. It even has the means to restore the settings if there's a power outage.

ShabbHOT causes a consistency between the bottom and top of your water tank controlled by an LED thermostat controller. Because of the constant movement of the water, there isn't enough time for the mineral deposits to accumulate at the bottom of the tank, causing a rise in fuel costs and premature deterioration of the water tank.

The ShabbHOT water heater controller can be installed on an

existing water heater you currently have (electric or gas) by a licensed plumber or in a new unit. The unit plus the installation costs between \$600 and \$800. Gove points out that the initial investment will pay for itself over approximately three to four years. In addition, when installed with a new water heater, expect to extend the life of the water heater by approximately five years, and approximately \$100 per year additional savings.

Joseph Gove has installed a total of 12 units in the Teaneck/Bergenfield area and has orders for more installations. He has been a licensed plumber in the state of New Jersey for more than 11 years and is the certified ShabbHOT installer for North Jersey. In addition to our area, he has also installed ShabbHOT units in Passaic, Fair Lawn, West Orange, Livingston and Edison. Gove is not only an installer, but also a consumer of this product. He invites your questions by phone (973) 473-6072 or e-mail, goveplumbing@optonline.net.



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