#### Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®

## Participating Contractor Co-Op Advertising Program



# Grow Your Business With Promotional Support From the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program

Consumers Energy is providing co-operative advertising funding to participating contractors to assist in the promotion of the Consumers Energy Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Contractors will be able to reserve up to \$4,000 in matching advertising funds for advertising taking place between Feb. 1 and Oct. 31, 2021. Matching funds are available for digital banner advertisements, print advertisements, direct mail postcard mailings and radio advertisements.

Current contractors who achieve Gold level status in 2021 now have exclusive access to co-op Facebook advertisements.



## **Program Details**

- Matching funds are available for digital banner advertisements, print advertisements, and direct mail postcard mailings
  that run between Feb. 1 and Oct. 31, 2021. To qualify for funding, contractors must email hpwescoopads@icf.com
  to request the advertisement templates shown in this guide and use them as described on page 5 under the
  Reimbursement Process section.
- Matching funds are available to reimburse 50% of the total advertising cost, up to \$4,000 per participating contractor. Funding will be on a first-come, first-served basis until available funds are reserved.
- Using the form on page 6, request matching funds for your planned advertising. See pages 5 and 6 for submission deadlines.
- All supporting documentation for advertising reimbursement must be received by ICF by Nov. 15, 2021. Matching funds will be disbursed by Jan. 31, 2022.

Note: Receiving confirmation that funds have been reserved for your planned advertising does not guarantee that you will receive co-op advertising funds; all other conditions must be met with respect to acceptable run dates and verification documentation to receive reimbursement.

## **Acceptable Media Formats and Approval Process**

Consumers Energy has designed advertisement templates to be used by contractors in the Co-Op Advertising program. Please read the following for advertisement specifications and instructions.

#### Digital Banner Advertisements

- Digital banner advertisements are available in three sizes (728 x 90, 300 x 250, 160 x 600), three color options (dark blue, light blue and white) and two message options (savings and comfort), as shown on pages 7, 8 and 9. These templates allow space for contractors to add their own custom advertisement. Email hpwescoopads@icf.com to request the advertisement template files.
- Contractor may request a custom-sized digital advertisement by emailing hpwescoopads@icf.com. Please include the size you need, which color advertisement you prefer and whether you'd like the "savings" or "comfort" message option.
   Allow two weeks for delivery of the custom-sized advertisement and an additional two weeks for the approval process.
- Banner ads should link to your company's webpage to enable customers to find more information about your business.
- For contractors to qualify for co-funding, banner ad files must be used as is. Contractors are not permitted to modify the pre-approved designs.
- Contractor must submit all advertising designs for approval before the advertising runs. Approval will require at least five business days. Please email all materials to hpwescoopads@icf.com for approval.

#### Print Advertisements

- Print advertisement templates are shown beginning on page 10. These templates allow space for contractors to add their own custom advertisement.
- Email hpwescoopads@icf.com to request the advertisement template package.
- Contractor may request a custom-sized print advertisement by emailing hpwescoopads@icf.com. Please include the
  size you need, whether you prefer the dark blue or light blue advertisement and whether you'd like the "savings" or
  "comfort" message option. Allow two weeks for delivery of the custom-sized advertisement and an additional two weeks
  for the approval process.
- For a contractor to remain eligible for co-funding, the Consumers Energy-branded portion of the ad must not be
  removed or modified in any way. Before advertisements are placed, contractors must submit their final ad design to
  Consumers Energy for approval to ensure that the ad remains in line with program branding.
- Ads must be in four-color process, to allow for correct reproduction of the Consumers Energy element.
- Contractor must submit all advertising designs for approval before the advertising runs. Approval will require at least five business days. Please email all materials to hpwescoopads@icf.com for approval.

#### **Direct Mail Postcards**

- Direct mail postcards are available in two designs, as shown on pages 22 and 23. These templates allow space for contractors to add their own custom advertisement. Email hpwescoopads@icf.com to request the template package.
- Quantities of up to 2,000 postcards are available to contractors free of charge. Request postcards by completing
  the Funds Reservation Request Form on page 6. For pricing on larger orders, please contact the program team at
  hpwescoopads@icf.com. Postage costs for distributing to your customer base are eligible for co-funding through the
  co-op program.
- Contractor must submit all advertising designs for approval before the advertising runs. Approval will require at least five business days. Please email all materials to hpwescoopads@icf.com for approval.

#### Radio Script

- An approximately 30-second script can be found on page 24.
- Portions of the script can be adjusted to be specific to your business.
- To maintain your eligibility for co-funding, the Consumers Energy-branded portion of the script should not be modified in any way.
- Once the advertisement is recorded, the contractor must submit all audio files for approval before placement. Approval will require at least five business days. Please email all materials to hpwescoopads@icf.com for approval.
- ICF will notify contractors if the advertisement needs to be pulled or put on hold due to power outages or severe weather circumstances.

#### Facebook Advertisements (Sponsored Posts)

- To qualify for Facebook advertising co-funding, contractor must have:
  - » Achieved Gold level status for 2021
  - » An active Facebook page for the company that is an active Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program Trade Ally
  - » A Facebook page moderator who responds to customer comments
- Facebook ads are available in four image options and two message options (savings and comfort). Examples of the Facebook ad templates are on page 25.
- If approved for co-funding, the contractor must agree to respond to any negative customer comments within 24 hours using a scripted response that will be delivered with the ad templates. The contractor must also send a screenshot of the comment(s) and response(s) to hpwescoopads@icf.com
- Facebook ads should link to your company's webpage so that customers can find more information about your business.
- Image files and content must be used as-is. Contractors are not permitted to modify the pre-approved materials.
- The contractor must submit the Facebook preview link for approval before the advertisement runs. Approval will require at least five business days. Please email all materials to hpwescoopads@icf.com for approval.
- ICF will notify contractors if the advertisement needs to be pulled or put on hold due to power outages or severe
  weather circumstances.

#### **Reimbursement Process**

To receive funding, you must include supporting documentation for each type of advertisement. Please see the specifications below.

- Supporting documentation will vary based on media being used:
  - Digital Banner Ads: Invoice from the media outlet and screenshot of banner ad(s) online
  - Print Ads: Invoice from the print publication (e.g., newspaper, magazine) and a tear sheet for each run date
  - Direct Mail Postcards: Postage receipt from the United States Postal Service or the vendor used
  - Radio Script: Invoice from the radio station and final audio file
  - Facebook Advertisement: Invoice from Facebook and preview link of the ad being run
- Supporting documentation must be received by Consumers Energy c/o ICF at the Jackson address no later than Nov. 15, 2021. There will be no exceptions to this deadline. Documentation received after Nov. 15, 2021, will result in no co-op advertising funds being awarded. For all advertisement types, please also include a copy of your company's W-9 form, required by ICF to process your payment.
- If supporting documentation has been scanned, it may be submitted by mail, fax or email. If submitting by mail, documentation must be received on or before Nov. 15, 2021. A Nov. 15 postmark will not qualify.

By mail:

Consumers Energy HPwES Co-Op Ad Program c/o ICF P.O. Box 1468 Jackson, MI 49204 By email:

hpwescoopads@icf.com

Reimbursement will occur in the form of a check to the contractor, which will be issued on or before Jan. 31, 2022.

## Co-Op Advertising Program Checklist

- By Aug. 1, 2021, request matching funds for your planned advertising using the form on the next page. Please submit your request by Aug. 1 so that we may earmark funds for your company. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Funding requests may not be submitted after Aug. 1.
- Email hpwescoopads@icf.com to request prints and/or the template package for your advertisements.
- Submit your ad design for review and approval at least 10 days prior to your advertisement's start date. Please allow our team as much review time as possible to account for any requested revisions to your company's ad.
- **By Nov. 15, 2021, submit supporting documentation** for your advertisements that run between Feb. 1 and Oct. 31, 2021, along with your company's W-9 form for payment processing.

## **Funds Reservation Request Form**

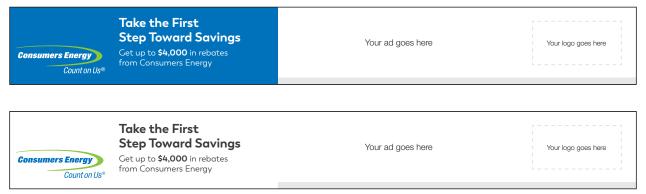
To be eligible to receive co-op funds, contractor must submit completed form by Oct. 1, 2021, or 10 business days (minimum) before advertisement insertion deadline, whichever comes first. Please submit your request for funding as soon as possible. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis and is not guaranteed.

Company Name:			Contact Name:		
Street Address:					
City:			State:		ZIP:
Email Address:			Telephone:		Fax:
Media	Run Date(s)	Total Cos	st .	Estima	ted Impressions
☐ Digital Banner Ads					
☐ Print Ads					
☐ Radio Ads					
Facebook Ads (Gold level contractors only)					
Direct Mail	Mail Date	Total Pos	stage Cost	Total Po	ostcards Requested
☐ Direct Mail Postcard  Note: Marketing material may on	ly be used during run date(s) o	or mail date.			
Matching funds requested:	\$(!	50% of total cos	t, up to \$4,000	)	
l acknowledge and agree the advertising does not guaran respect to acceptable run do	tee that I will receive co-	op advertising fu	ınds, and that o	all other cor	
Contractor:					
Authorized Representative:					
Title:					
Date:					
Signature:					

Please submit this completed form to hpwescoopads@icf.com

## **Digital Banner Ads**

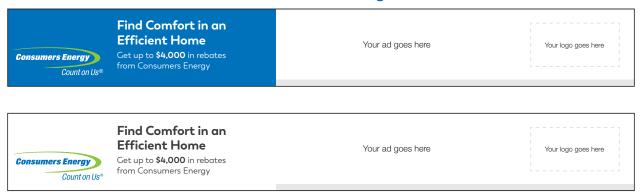
## "Savings" Message



#### 728 X 90 pixels

Available in dark blue and white

## "Comfort" Message



728 X 90 pixels

Available in dark blue and white

## **Digital Banner Ads**

## "Savings" Message



Take the First Step Toward Savings
Get up to \$4,000 in rebates from Consumers Energy

Your ad goes here

Consumers Energy

Your logo goes here

Count on Us®

300 X 250 pixels Available in dark blue and light blue

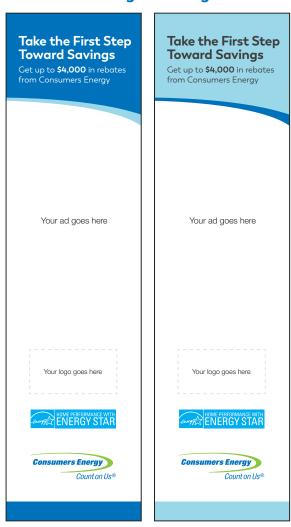


300 X 250 pixels Available in dark blue and light blue



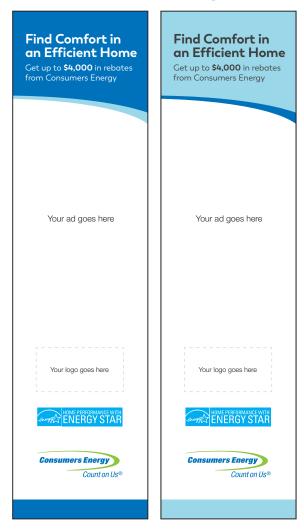
## **Digital Banner Ads**

## "Savings" Message



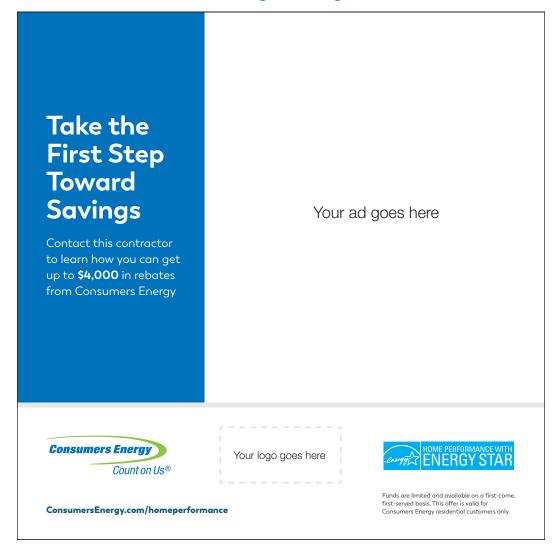
160 X 600 pixels Available in dark blue and light blue

## "Comfort" Message

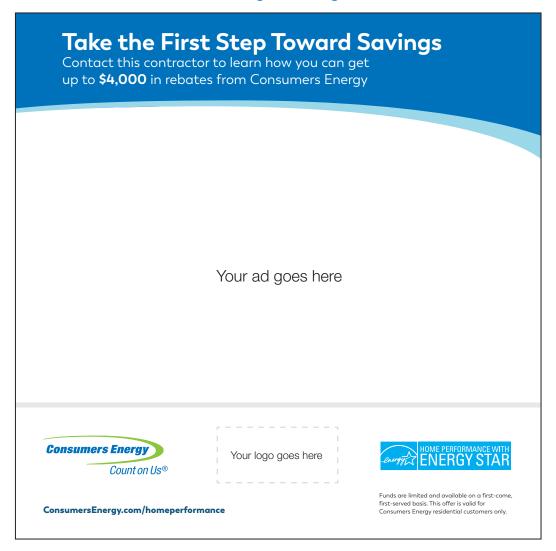


160 X 600 pixels Available in dark blue and light blue

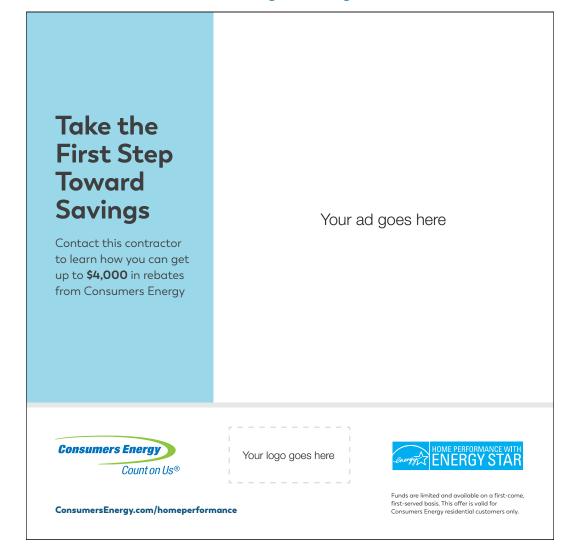
Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue



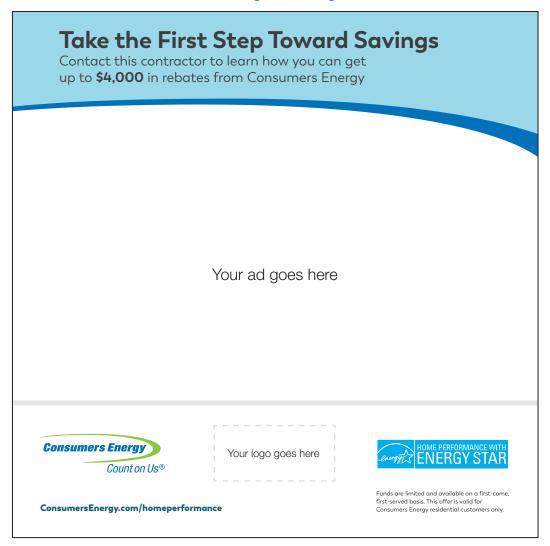
Placement suggestion — Horizontal Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue



Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue

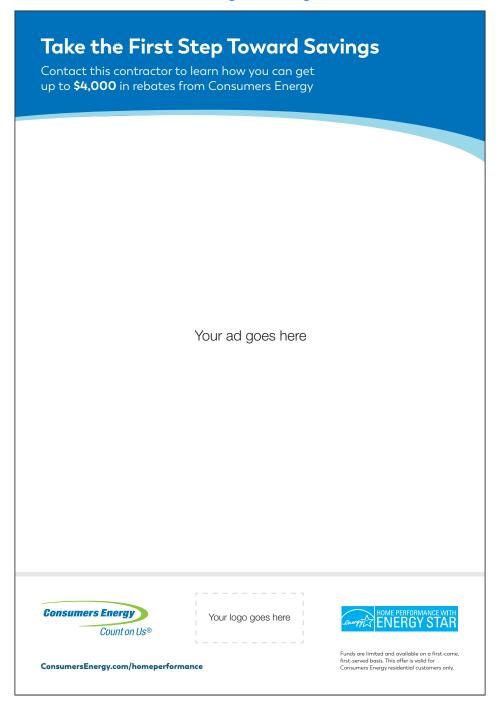


Placement suggestion — Horizontal Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue



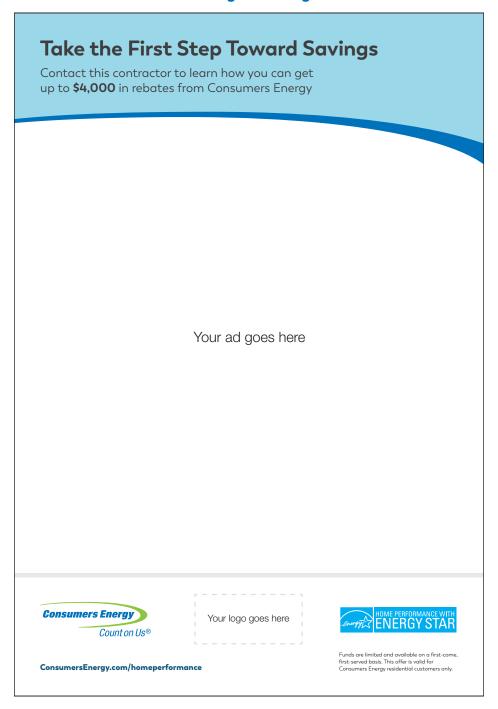
Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 8" Available in dark blue and light blue

## "Savings" Message

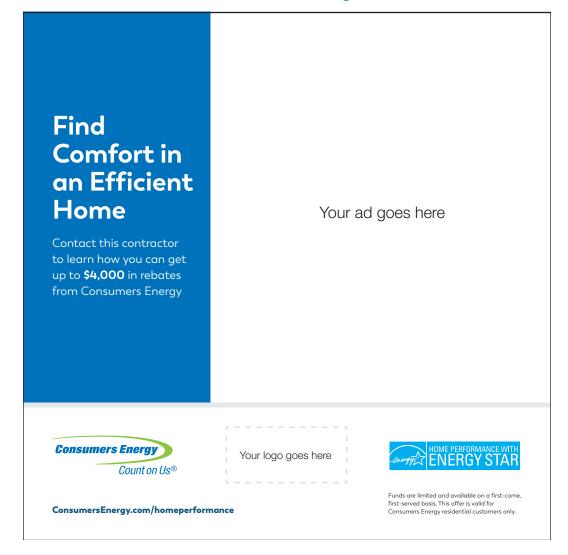


Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 8" Available in dark blue and light blue

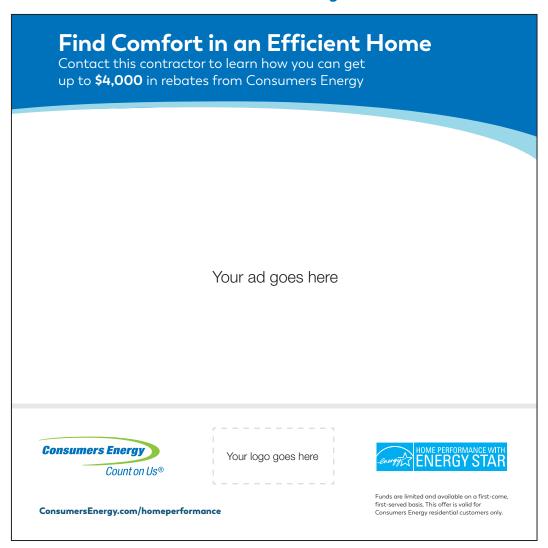
## "Savings" Message



Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue



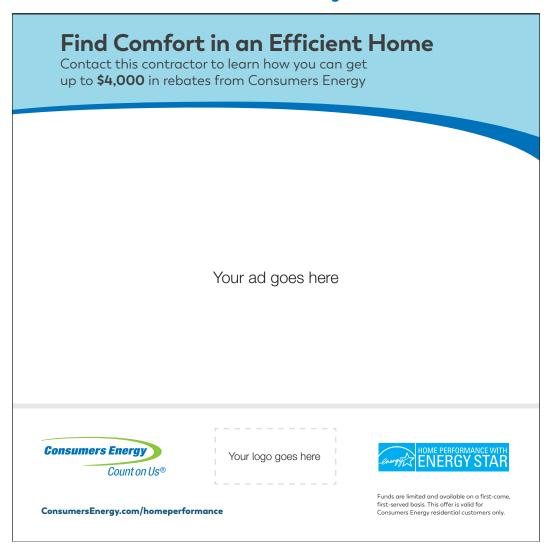
Placement suggestion — Horizontal Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue



Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue

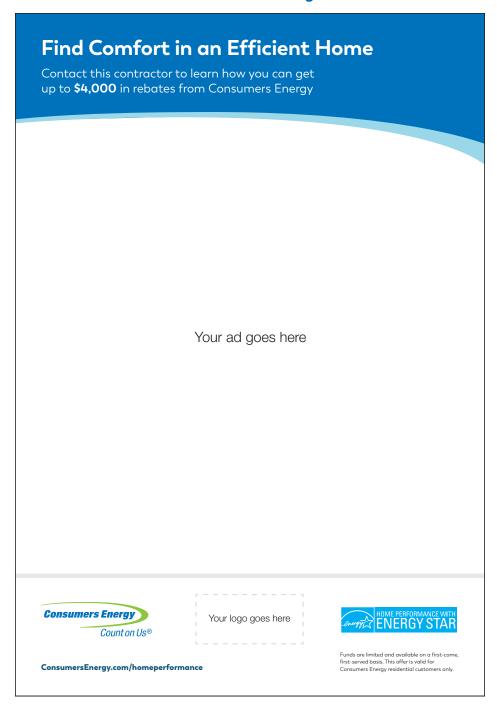


Placement suggestion — Horizontal Ad: 5.5" X 5.5" Available in dark blue and light blue



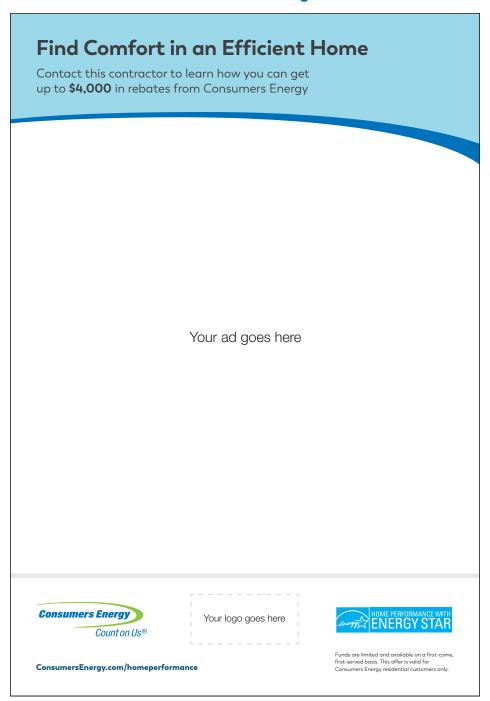
Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 8" Available in dark blue and light blue

## "Comfort" Message



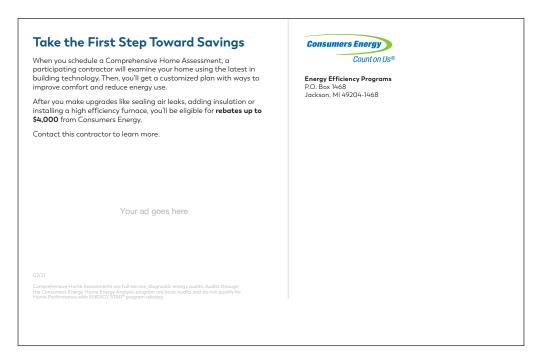
Placement suggestion — Vertical Ad: 5.5" X 8" Available in dark blue and light blue

## "Comfort" Message



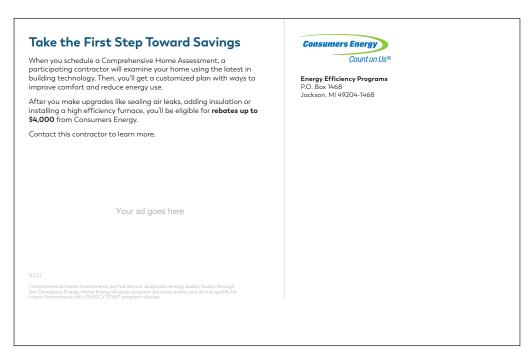
#### **Design One**





#### **Design Two**





## Radio Script (Approximately 30-Second Script)

Hey, Michigan homeowners. Want to save energy and stay comfortable year-round? Contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to schedule a Comprehensive Home Assessment. You'll get a customized report outlining ways to reduce energy waste, create a more comfortable indoor environment and protect Michigan's natural resources. Plus, Consumers Energy offers rebates up to four thousand dollars on qualifying upgrades, like insulation, air sealing and more. Schedule with \_\_\_\_\_\_ by calling \_\_\_\_\_\_ today!

#### **Facebook Advertisements**

(Gold Level Contractors Only)

## "Savings" Message

Want to reduce energy costs in all types of weather? Save up to \$4,000 on home upgrades with rebates from Consumers Energy. Contact us today to learn more. [CONTRACTOR URL]

#### "Comfort" Message

Tired of drafty rooms and inconsistent temperatures? Make upgrades and get up to \$4,000 in rebates from Consumers Energy. Contact us today to learn more. [CONTRACTOR URL]

#### **Negative Comment Message**

Thank you for sharing about your experience with Consumers Energy. We forwarded your post to Consumers Energy. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do to help out.

