Most homeowners who buy an EV have two goals: relying on a cleaner, greener source of energy to get around, and reducing the cost of maintenance for their vehicle.

If you’re thinking about greening your wheels, now is also the time to look at the benefits of installing a heat pump water heater.

Why switch from gas to heat pump water heaters?

In California, most residential water heaters are fueled by natural gas. But that’s changing. As more drivers are switching their cars from gas to electric, more people are also looking to switch their appliances from gas to electric, starting with water heating.

Save money, go green

An electric heat pump water heater is a clean and highly efficient way to produce hot water. Switching from gas to a heat pump water heater can:

- Save you energy and money
- Cut your natural gas use as much as 50%
- Reduce air pollution
- Reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change

If you’re thinking about installing a heat pump water heater now or in the future, talk to the person who is installing your new EV charger. It might be easier and more economical to prepare now to support the installation of a heat pump water heater, not when your gas water heater fails.
What is a heat pump water heater?
It looks a lot like a conventional gas water heater—it’s a big cylindrical tank with one pipe that brings cold water in and another pipe that sends hot water out. The heat pump is built into the top of the unit. A heat pump works like a refrigerator but in reverse. A refrigerator uses electricity, refrigerant and a compressor to move heat from inside the refrigerator to the outside air. A heat pump water heater takes heat from the surrounding air and transfers it to the water in the tank.

Frequently asked questions

What do heat pump water heaters cost?
They cost more than gas or conventional electric water heaters, but the energy savings can make up for the initial cost difference. Costs vary depending on the situation, such as whether the home’s electrical service panel needs to be upgraded. Planning for an EV charger and heat pump water heater installation at the same time may bring down the overall combined cost of the electrical work.

Is installation difficult?
No, but consider choosing a contractor with experience installing heat pump water heaters, and one who is enrolled in one or more of the rebate programs listed below.

Are there rebates for heat pump water heaters?
Yes! Rebates are currently available to homeowners all across the region. See this list for more information: www.bayren.org/incentives

For rebates and additional details on heat pump water heaters, visit: www.bayren.org/water-heaters

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