Active Savings with a Passive House!

PASSIVE HOUSE WITH AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP

“I feel better talking to political officials and business leaders about how I want them to step up and do the right thing, because I can say, we did it… now it’s your turn to do the right thing.”

-Bob, Ossining

YEAR: 1925

BEDROOMS/BATHS: 3 BR/ 2 BA

STYLE: TRANSITIONAL COLONIAL

HEAT SOURCE: AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP

SQUARE FEET: 2,000

CONTRACTOR: ED NUGENT

NET ZERO ENERGY USE

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When Emily Sack and Bob Schloss decided to purchase a fixer-upper home in Ossining a few years ago, they saw the opportunity to not just re-design the house, but to completely transform it.

In just under a year, Emily and Bob renovated their home to meet the standards for a Passive House. These types of buildings are designed to reach net-zero energy usage, and Emily and Bob's home is only the fifth Passive House in all of Westchester. The couple worked with Sustainable Westchester to install air-source heat pumps throughout the house, providing a low-impact way to heat and cool their home. They also installed countless other pieces of green technology, from state-of-the-art solar panels and insulation to their rooftop garden.

Emily and Bob's home is now more comfortable and sustainable than ever, showing how eco-friendly houses may provide a bright future for homeowners everywhere.

HOMEOWNER CONCERNS

- House vacant for ten years before they moved in, and it was in horrible condition
- Extremely challenging to turn the existing house into a passive house- didn't know how to think at every different level about the scale of renovation

IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED

- Insulation
- Air source heat pump
- Solar panels
- Induction stove
- Radiant floor heating
- Zehnder to circulate air

BENEFITS & IMPACT

- Low monthly energy use
- The solar panels generate enough electricity to power the entire house including the air source heat pump
- High air quality
- The thermal envelope means they can have a small heat pump in contrast to the size of the house
- Big savings
- Comfort is higher, expense is lower

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