

Tons of Comfort at Low Cost

Over the years, homeowners have become more and more sophisticated in their purchasing habits.

It's no longer enough to manufacture furnaces and air-conditioning units with basic features and average heating and cooling efficiencies—people want and expect more.

Today's consumers are looking for space conditioning units that are more cost-competitive with high efficiency and comfort levels, and most importantly, are reliable.

With the active participation of member companies such as Piedmont Natural Gas, the Gas Research Institute is sponsoring York International Corporation and Briggs & Stratton in the development of a three-ton gas engine-driven heating and cooling system. With a higher comfort level than existing electric heat pumps or air conditioners, the gas heating and cooling system also has one of the lowest operating costs of any competitive space conditioning equipment. Overall, system reliability and homeowner acceptance proved to be excellent in field tests. The key components of the gas heating and cooling system were specifically designed by leaders in the industry to achieve high perfor-

mance at a competitive cost. These "optimized components" increase the reliability and long life of the system, reducing overall maintenance costs. With the gas system, maintenance consists of an annual service checkup with the dealer replacing only the oil, spark plug and filters.

Surveys conducted on the test program revealed that heating comfort needs were met, in some cases, even better than by the conventional gas furnace, and cooling comfort was excellent. By using a natural gas engine, the gas heating and cooling system supplies hotter air than the electric heat pump—which means better heating comfort for the homeowners.

Engine heat can also be used year-round for water heating and recovered in the winter for space heating, reducing the need for a back-up heating system. Using natural gas instead of electricity for cooling will ease the electric utilities' peak summer cooling loads and create more balanced residential gas demand throughout the year. York, which will manufacture and market this natural gas version of a heat pump, expects the unit to be available for purchase sometime in 1994. For more information, contact Piedmont Natural Gas at 760-0500.

What Does Fair Housing Mean?

April was Fair Housing Month, culminating in a Housing Fair at the Benton Convention Center that ushered many first-time homebuyers through the murky waters of the home-buying process.

But what does "Fair Housing" mean? Simple! That you can choose to buy a home where ever you choose to live. Just ask your REALTOR.

The elimination of housing discrimination is one of the most challenging problems facing society. As REALTORS, we are ethically committed to stopping discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familiar status or national origin. The commitment of the National Association of REALTORS and REALTORS locally is vital to the elimination of discrimination in hous-

ing. What does this mean to you, a prospective home buyer? It means that no one can restrict where you choose to buy a home. You can buy in any area of the city that you choose—East Winston, Clemmons, Kernersville, or where ever. Your REALTOR has a responsibility not to discriminate in showing you neighborhoods, as well. The choice of where to live is yours—not your real estate agent, mortgage lender or friends. Protect your right to fair housing!

If you have questions about Fair Housing, call the Winston-Salem Association of REALTORS or contact any REALTOR you choose.

The choice is yours!

— By Charles Washington, REALTOR with Re/Max



The Sign of Better Living.

When you're ready for more comfort, more economy, and more efficiency, you're ready for a Gas Advantage Home. It's the best home value you can buy—right now and for years to come.

Only a Gas Advantage Home can offer you the opportunity to have all the advantages of natural gas heating, water heating, outdoor lighting, clothes drying, and cooking—made even more efficient by the latest technology. So when you look for a home, look for this sign. It's the symbol of a better life for you.



Piedmont Natural Gas Company

Gas cuts the cost of comfort.