



Energy Efficiency Program

USING ENERGY WISELY FOR A BETTER FUTURE™

Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program Steam Trap Fact Sheet

The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program is offering rebates to Nicor Gas Business customers on Rates 4 & 74 for the repair or replacement of failed steam traps.

What are steam traps? Do I have them at my facility?

Steam traps can be found in most steam systems (i.e. steam boilers). Steam traps are automatic valves that remove condensate, air, and other non-condensable gases, while preventing or minimizing steam loss and maximizing system efficiency. Four types of steam traps exist: 1) Thermostatic (including float and thermostatic), 2) Mechanical, 3) Thermodynamic and 4) Fixed Orifice.

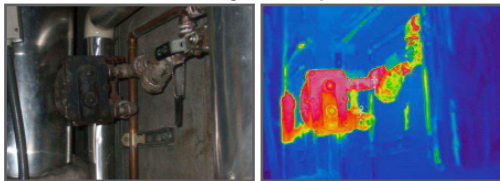
How do I know if my steam traps need to be repaired or replaced? Is it better to repair them, or replace them?

Steam traps last approximately 6 years. Periodic inspection and maintenance are recommended to ensure proper operation. Steam traps can fail in either an open or closed mode. Closed or blocked steam traps can cause lower system performance issues because of condensate buildup in the steam space. Open or leaking steam traps may allow excess steam to escape which increases the amount of steam that must be generated to meet end use requirements.

If your steam traps have not been routinely inspected, and are around 6 years old, contact an HVAC contractor (boiler maintenance experience is recommended) to analyze your existing steam traps and determine if they require repairs or replacement. Leaks may not be visible or easily noticeable, and thermal imaging and ultrasonic testing can be used to determine if the steam trap is leaking. Repairing or replacing steam traps can improve the system's overall efficiency, provide greater comfort and increase energy efficiency.



Sample Steam Trap Analysis
Leaking Steam Trap



Replacement Steam Trap



How do I repair or replace failed steam traps?

Installation or maintenance by a professional contractor is not required by the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program, but is strongly recommended. Most HVAC contractors with boiler installation and maintenance experience can repair and replace steam traps.

Why are rebates available?

The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program offers rebates on equipment and upgrades to promote the efficient use of natural gas. Repairing or replacing failed steam traps improves steam system efficiency and reduces the amount of natural gas required to meet end use requirements.

Am I eligible for the rebates?

Nicor Gas Business customers on Rates 4 or 74 can receive rebates for repairing or replacing existing, failed steam traps, one for one. There is no limit to how many rebates you may receive.

How do I apply?

Simply visit the Program website at www.nicorgasrebates.com to apply online or download an application.

Available Rebates

Steam Trap Rebates	
Repair or Replace Existing, Failed Traps*	\$50 per steam trap

* Rebates are available for the repair or replacement of all types of failed steam traps, regardless of the steam system's operation.

For more information about Steam Traps and other rebates available to Business customers and contractors, please visit:

www.nicorgasrebates.com or call 877-886-4239