

Survey of UK Households With Heat Pumps Showed 81% Satisfaction Level

Because of their higher fossil fuel costs, other countries are far ahead of the United States in the adoption of home electrification, including for heating. The United Kingdom is one of them, and *The Guardian* recently reported on a survey of 2,500 UK households that made that switch. I'm not aware of a similar survey here, where there may not be enough heat pump households to do a proper survey.

HVAC contractors here in America have been slow to offer or recommend the replacement of gas forced air and gas boiler heating systems with heat pumps, mostly because they are unfamiliar with them. When a homeowner needs to replace their current HVAC system, the vendor who has been servicing their system is most likely to recommend replacing it with a "newer, more efficient" model. So far, I have found only one company which installs and services *both* traditional gas-fueled heating systems and electric heat pump systems — always recommending the latter. That company, which I have mentioned previously, is **Sensible Heating & Cooling, 720-876-7166**.

Here are some key excerpts from *The Guardian's* article, a link I'll post on www.GoldenREblog.com:

The survey of more than 2,500 domestic heat pump owners and more than 1,000 domestic gas boiler owners in England, Scot-



land and Wales over the last winter is thought to be the largest investigation into how households have responded to heat pumps to date....

Households have been slow to take up government vouchers worth £5,000 to help cover the cost of replacing a gas boiler with a new heat pump. Slightly more than a third of the scheme's grants were taken up in the last financial year.

However, the survey, which was undertaken by Eunomia Research and Consulting, found that 81% of households were as satisfied or more satisfied with heat pumps compared with previous heating systems, including gas boilers, electric heating, or oil and LPG boilers....

On running costs, which is another key area of concern for households considering a heat pump, the survey found that two-thirds of heat pump owners and 59% of gas boiler owners were satisfied even without extensive energy efficiency upgrades....

"The government should now have the confidence to move forward quickly with its proposal to.... streamline out-of-date planning rules to make it easier and cheaper for everyone to make the switch to cleaner, safer and more efficient heating with a heat

pump," [said Clem Cowton, director of external affairs for Oc-

topus Energy, a local energy supplier.]

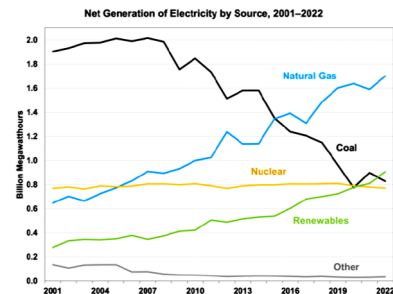
Renewables Surpassed Coal & Nuclear for First Time

Since 2007, the use of coal for electricity generation has generally been in decline, while the use of renewables has been on the rise. Electricity generation from nuclear had remained relatively flat over the last two decades but has experienced a slight decline in recent years. In 2022, net generation of electricity from renewables reached 0.91 billion megawatt-hours, topping both coal and nuclear (0.83 and 0.77 billion megawatt-hours, respectively). In 2022, renewables accounted for about 21% of all net generation of electricity.

Renewable sources of power include wind, solar, hydropower, biomass, and geothermal energy.

"Other" category includes petroleum liquids, petroleum coke, batteries, chemicals, hydrogen, pitch, purchased steam, sulfur, miscellaneous technologies, and electricity generated from waste.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration



Are You Interested in or Curious About Cohousing?

Cohousing is an intentional, collaborative neighborhood that combines private homes with shared indoor and outdoor spaces designed to support an active and interdependent community life.

Here in Jefferson County and Denver, we have several successful cohousing communities, including **Harmony Village**, a 27-unit townhome community in Golden, and **Hearthstone Cohousing**, a 33-unit townhome community built on the former Elitch Gardens site in northwest Denver. Both communities have common houses for group meals and other community activities. The common houses also have guest apartments that members can rent for visiting guests.

Cohousing communities like these are self-managed. Members pitch in to help with community chores. Typically, everyone knows each other by name. It's all about being in community.

That doesn't interest most people, but if it interests you, you can join Women in Sustainability and

CohoUS on **June 14th, 5 to 8 pm** at **Hearthstone Cohousing's** common house, **4700 West 37th Ave., Denver**, for a discussion and networking event. Attendees can take a tour of the complex starting at 5pm. At 6:30pm, there will be a short talk from CohoUS executive director **Trish Becker-Hafnor**, followed by a discussion of what it means to live in a cohousing community, myths about cohousing, and how cohousing benefits the environment.

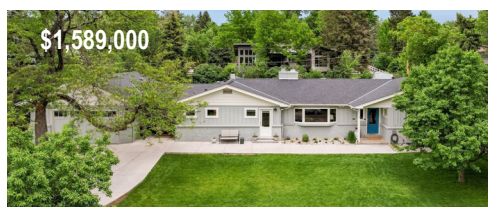
I wrote about cohousing in my Dec. 29 column, which you can read at www.JimSmithColumns.com.

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Littleton Ranch Listed by Chuck Brown

Remodeled in 2016 and again in 2020, this home at **3 Meadowbrook Road** is located on a 0.61-acre lot in the quiet Ridge View neighborhood at the end of a cul-de-sac and just steps from Lee Gulch Trail with access to the High Line Canal trail. This expansive light-filled home has five bedrooms and four baths, an open floor plan and a chef's kitchen. The stainless steel 6-burner Thermador range with double oven and the Thermador refrigerator complement the dramatic 12'x4' island, making food prep and hosting a breeze. The tranquil primary suite features an extraordinary newly remodeled bathroom which includes radiant floor heating, marble vanities and floors, custom wood cabinetry, and many other features too numerous to mention. Additional amenities include a professional grade wired and wireless internet, Sonos system throughout, and home theater. The backyard features expansive park-like grounds with a covered patio perfect for entertaining. The newly remodeled garage accommodates two cars, and has a lighted workbench, cabinets, wall storage, EV charger, epoxy flooring and ceiling-mounted storage racks. Find lots more information and a narrated video tour at www.LittletonHome.info, then come to the **open house this Saturday, June 10th, from 11am to 2pm**.



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Jim Smith
 Broker/Owner, 303-525-1851
Jim@GoldenRealEstate.com
 1214 Washington Ave., Golden
Broker Associates:
JIM SWANSON, 303-929-2727
CHUCK BROWN, 303-885-7855
DAVID DLUGASCH, 303-908-4835
GREG KRAFT, 720-353-1922
AUSTIN POTTORFF, 970-281-9071

