



THE ULTIMATE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

TO GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR **HEAT PUMP MINI-SPLITS**

Welcome!

We are delighted you've chosen this guide to maximize the benefits of your heat pump mini-split system. This resource is designed to provide you with valuable tips and practical advice to enhance comfort, achieve energy efficiency, and ensure your unit's longevity. Enjoy!

WELCOME LETTER FROM RAYA SUNSHINE

Dear Homeowner,

Welcome to *The Ultimate Homeowner's Guide to Getting the Most Out of Your Heat Pump Mini-Splits* — created with care by the team at Raya Sunshine Heat Pumps.

As a local, veteran family-owned company serving Nova Scotia, we know what it takes to stay comfortable through our unpredictable weather — and how important it is to do so affordably, safely, and efficiently.

Your mini-split heat pump isn't just a piece of hardware on your wall — it's the heart of your home's comfort system. But like anything valuable, it performs best when it's understood, respected, and cared for.

In this guide, you'll find everything you need to make the most of your investment:

- How to use it efficiently in every season
- Simple habits that can lower your power bills
- Pro tips to extend your system's life
- Cleaning and maintenance know-how to protect your air quality

- And guidance on when to DIY and when to call in the pros

We've even included insider info on rebates, 0% financing, and special pricing for veterans, first responders, and seniors — because everyone deserves clean, healthy air and a system that works *when you need it most*.

Whether you're a first-time heat pump owner or a seasoned mini-split user, this guide was written for *you* — with straightforward, no-fluff advice from real people who knock on doors, answer calls, and take pride in doing the job right.

Thanks for trusting us with your comfort.

If you ever have questions, we're just a message or a knock away.

Warmly,

The Chapman Family

Founders, Raya Sunshine Heat Pumps



Veteran-Owned. People-First. Nova Scotia Proud.

The Ultimate Homeowner's Guide to Getting the Most Out of Your Heat Pump Mini-Splits

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SECTION ONE: Welcome & Why This Guide Matters

Welcome to the World of Mini-Splits!

You've made a smart choice. A heat pump mini-split is one of the best ways to stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer — all while saving money on your power bill.

But here's the thing:

Even the best systems need a little help to work their best.

That's where this guide comes in.

Why This Guide Matters

Just like your car runs better with oil changes and tire checks, your heat pump needs regular care too.

This guide is here to help you:

- Understand how your system works (no tech talk, we promise)
- Know what to do each season to keep things running smoothly
- Spot small problems before they become big ones

- Learn when you can DIY and when it's time to call in a pro
- Keep your indoor air clean and healthy
- Save money and get the most out of every dollar you've spent

Who This Guide Is For

This guide was written especially for **Nova Scotia homeowners** — whether you're new to heat pumps or have had one for years.

It's also made with **veterans, seniors, and first responders** in mind, because we care deeply about the people who take care of others. That's why we offer exclusive discounts and trusted service that puts your needs first.

Who We Are

We're **Raya Sunshine Heat Pumps** — a local, veteran family-owned company right here in Nova Scotia. We believe in doing things the old-fashioned way:

-  Show up
-  Be honest

- ✓ Do the job right the first time
- ✓ Take care of people

What You'll Learn in This Guide

Inside, you'll find:

- Easy tips for every season
- Ways to lower your power bill
- Cleaning and care you can do at home
- Signs to watch for if something isn't working right
- Special checklists and local rebate info
- And real advice — from real people — who live where you live

Let's Get Started

We're glad you're here. Your heat pump is one of the best tools you have for staying comfortable and keeping costs low — let's make sure it works its best for years to come.

We're here if you ever need help.
Now flip the page and let's dive in!

SECTION TWO: How Heat Pump Mini-Splits Work (Without the Jargon)

What Is a Heat Pump Mini-Split?

A **mini-split** is a special kind of heating and cooling system.

It does two jobs in one:

-  **Heats your home in the winter**
-  **Cools your home in the summer**

It's like a smart machine that *moves* heat instead of *making* it. That's what makes it so energy-efficient!

What Are the Parts?

Your system has **two main parts**:

1. **Indoor Head Unit**

- This is the part on your wall blowing warm or cool air.
- It has filters that catch dust and dirt.

2. **Outdoor Unit (Compressor)**

- This sits outside your house.

- It brings in or sends out heat, depending on the season.

They're connected by small tubes that carry heat and energy between them. Some homes have more than one indoor unit to heat or cool different rooms.

How It Heats

When it's **cold outside**, the system pulls heat from the air *outside* and brings it *inside*.

Yes — even when it's cold, there's still heat in the air! Your mini-split knows how to find it and use it to warm your home.

How It Cools

When it's **hot outside**, your system works in reverse. It takes the warm air from *inside* your home and pushes it *outside*, making your home cool and comfortable.

What About Humidity?

Your mini-split also helps control **humidity** (the amount of water in the air).

This keeps your home from feeling sticky in the summer or too dry in the winter.

There's even a setting called “**Dry Mode**” for humid days — more on that later.

Why Mini-Splits Are So Efficient

- They **don't burn fuel** like oil or wood stoves
- They **only move heat**, not create it — which uses less energy
- You can **heat or cool just the rooms you need**
- They work great in Nova Scotia's changing seasons

Smart but Simple

Your heat pump is **very smart** — but it still needs you to use it the right way.

With the tips in this guide, you'll learn how to get the most out of your mini-split without wasting energy or wearing it out too soon.

SECTION THREE: Year-Round Usage Tips

How to Stay Comfortable and Save Money in Every Season

SUMMER: Keep Your Cool Without Overworking Your Unit

Best Setting: Cool Mode or Dry Mode

Recommended Temp:  22–24°C (that’s cool but not too cold)

Top Tips:

- **Keep windows and doors closed** – helps the unit work better
- Use “**Dry Mode**” on humid days — it removes moisture without making the room cold
- **Don’t keep changing the temperature** — pick one and let it run
- **Use curtains or blinds** to block out the hot sun

 *Pro Tip:* Ceiling fans help move cool air around — use them with your mini-split to cool faster!

FALL: Prep for Heating Season

Best Setting: Auto Mode or Fan Mode

Recommended Temp:  Start around 20°C

Top Tips:

- Give your unit a quick **wipe-down** and **clean the filters**
- **Don't wait** for the first cold snap — start using heat early
- Switch to **“Heat Mode”** before freezing weather kicks in
- Book your **deep cleaning or check-up** before winter (slots fill up fast)

 *Pro Tip:* A clean mini-split works better — don't skip fall maintenance.

WINTER: Stay Warm & Efficient

Best Setting: Heat Mode

Recommended Temp:  20–22°C for most homes

Top Tips:

- **Leave it on!** Heat pumps work best running low and steady
- **Never set it too high too fast** — it can stress the system
- **Keep the outdoor unit clear of snow and ice**
- **Don't switch to emergency heat unless you have to** — your mini-split is made for cold!

 *Pro Tip:* Keep bedroom doors open if you only have one head unit — it helps warm air flow.

SPRING: Light Air & Low Bills

Best Setting: Fan Mode or Cool Mode on warmer days

Recommended Temp:  **20–22°C**

Top Tips:

- Time for **another filter clean** — pollen builds up fast
- Use **Fan Mode** to freshen the air on mild days
- **Open windows when it's nice out**, but turn the unit off first
- Get ready for **summer settings** — adjust early!

 *Pro Tip:* Spring is a great time to book a **deep clean** and performance check-up before the summer rush.

 **All-Year Rule: Set It and Let It Run**

Heat pumps work best when they stay **on**.
Turning them off and on uses **more energy** and **wears them down faster**.

-  Choose your temp
-  Set it once
-  Let it run!

SECTION FOUR: Energy Savings & Efficiency Hacks

How to Lower Your Power Bill Without Losing Comfort

Set It Right — Then Leave It Alone

Your heat pump works best when it **runs steady**. Turning it off and on again makes it work harder and use more power.

-  Set your ideal temp once (like **20–22°C in winter**)
-  Let it run — it will adjust as needed
-  Don't keep changing modes or temperatures

Avoid the Setback Trap

Turning your heat pump way down when you leave doesn't always save money.

Why? Because it uses **extra energy** to warm or cool your house back up.

Better Idea:

- Lower it just **1–2 degrees**, not 5 or 10
- If you're gone for a long trip, then yes — turn it down more

Clean Filters = Lower Bills

Dirty filters make your system work harder (and cost more to run).

 **Clean them every month** (or more often if you have pets)

 Just pop them out and rinse with warm water

 Let them dry before putting them back

We'll show you how in Section 5.

Use Curtains & Blinds to Your Advantage

 In the winter:

- **Open** curtains during the day to let sunlight warm your space
- **Close** them at night to keep the heat in

 In the summer:

- **Keep blinds closed** during the day to block hot sun
- This helps your mini-split stay cooler and run less

Use Fans to Help Air Flow

A ceiling fan or small floor fan can help move warm or cool air around your room.

This means your mini-split doesn't have to work as hard.

↳ In winter: Set your fan to blow air **upward**

↳ In summer: Set it to blow air **downward**

Don't Forget About Humidity

High humidity = sticky and uncomfortable

Low humidity = dry and dusty

Use **Dry Mode** in the summer to remove moisture.

If your home is very dry in winter, try a humidifier in one or two rooms.

 The right humidity helps your mini-split work smarter.

Upgrade to a Smart Thermostat (If Compatible)

Some mini-splits can connect to a **smart thermostat or phone app**.

This lets you:

- Set timers
- Control your unit from anywhere

- Track your energy use

Ask your installer or technician if your system can use one.

Extra Savings Tip: Layer Your Heating

If you also have electric baseboard or wood heat, you can:

- Use your mini-split for **main heating**
- Use other heat only when needed (like very cold nights)

This helps lower your overall power bill.

SECTION FIVE: Cleaning & Maintenance 101

How to Keep Your Mini-Split Working Like New

Why Cleaning Matters

Just like a car needs oil changes, your heat pump needs cleaning to stay strong.

When it's dirty, it:

- Uses more power
- Blows less air
- Spreads dust and allergens
- Wears out faster

 **Skipping cleaning could even void your warranty.**

What You Can Do at Home (Monthly Tasks)

1. Clean the Filters

- Open the front panel of your wall unit
- Gently pull out the filters
- Rinse under warm (not hot) water

- Let them air dry fully
- Put them back in — you're done!



Do this **once a month**, or more often if:

- You have pets
- You live near the ocean
- Someone in your home has allergies or asthma

2. Wipe Down the Head Unit

- Use a soft, damp cloth
- Wipe the top, sides, and front
- Don't spray cleaners directly onto the unit

 *Never use bleach or strong sprays — they can damage the plastic and internal parts.*

3. Check for Airflow

Make sure nothing is blocking your indoor or outdoor unit:

- No curtains, furniture, or decorations in front of the head
- No plants, snow, or junk around the outdoor box

 In winter, clear snow and ice off the outdoor unit gently with a broom — **never use hot water or hit it.**

What a Professional Does (Recommended Yearly)

A pro cleaning goes way deeper than you can do at home. Here's what we do during a **deep clean** at Raya Sunshine:

 Inspect for:

- Mold, mildew, and bacteria
- Leaks in refrigerant lines
- Electrical issues or odd smells

 Clean:

- Inside coil (the cold metal part behind the filters)
- Drain line (to stop leaks or water backups)
- Blower wheel (this spins and throws air — it gets filthy!)
- Outdoor coil and fan

 Report:

- On system performance
- Recommendations for repairs or tune-ups

- Reminder of rebate eligibility and service discounts



When to Book a Pro Clean

- **Once a year at minimum**
- More often if:
 - You smoke indoors
 - You run it 24/7
 - You live near saltwater
 - You have health concerns

 *Most homeowners book in the **spring or fall** — before extreme weather hits.*

Signs It's Time for Service

Watch for:

- Weak air flow
- Weird smells (musty, dirty sock, or burning)
- Loud or strange noises
- Water dripping from your indoor unit
- System running but not cooling or heating

 Don't wait. These signs often mean **your system is dirty or struggling.**

SECTION SIX: Protecting Indoor Air Quality

How Your Heat Pump Helps You Breathe Cleaner, Healthier Air

What Is Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)?

Indoor air quality means how clean and safe the air in your home is.

If the air is full of:

- Dust
- Pet dander
- Mold spores
- Smoke or fumes
- Bacteria and viruses

...then it's not just uncomfortable — it can be harmful to your health.

Why It Matters

Poor air quality can cause:

- Coughing or sneezing

- Headaches or fatigue
- Dry eyes or itchy skin
- Trouble sleeping
- Worsened asthma, allergies, or other breathing issues

 *Seniors, kids, pets, and people with health conditions are at higher risk.*

How Heat Pumps Affect Your Air

Your mini-split pulls air in, filters it, and sends it back out again — all day, every day.

If your system is:

 **Clean and maintained** — it helps you breathe fresher, healthier air

 **Dirty or clogged** — it spreads dust, mold, and bacteria back into your rooms

Mold & Mildew Risks

Mold grows inside mini-splits when:

- The coils stay wet
- The unit is never cleaned

- The drain line gets clogged

If you smell a musty or “wet sock” smell — you may already have mold inside your unit.

That means it’s time for a **deep clean**.

 A professional cleaning removes mold from the **coils, blowers, and drain pans**.

How to Keep Your Air Cleaner Year-Round

Here’s your clean-air checklist:

- ✓ Clean your filters monthly
- ✓ Wipe dust off the head unit weekly
- ✓ Don’t block airflow with furniture or curtains
- ✓ Keep doors and windows closed while the unit is running
- ✓ Use “Dry Mode” on humid days
- ✓ Book a professional deep clean yearly
- ✓ Use an air purifier in bedrooms if needed

Special Care for Sensitive Homes

At Raya Sunshine, we recommend **extra care** for homes with:

- Newborns or young children
- Elderly residents
- People with allergies, COPD, asthma, or lung issues
- Pets (especially cats or dogs that shed)

For these homes, a **cleaning every 6–8 months** is ideal — and we offer **discounted service plans** for seniors and veterans.

Clean Air = Better Health

Cleaner air means:

- Better sleep
- Fewer allergy flare-ups
- A more comfortable home
- Less dust on surfaces
- Peace of mind knowing your family is breathing safe

SECTION SEVEN: Troubleshooting Common Issues

What's Normal, What's Not, and When to Call for Help

First, Don't Panic

Your heat pump might act up once in a while. Most issues are simple and easy to fix — no need to stress.

This section helps you:

- Understand what's normal
- Spot problems early
- Know when to call in a pro

Weird Noises

Normal Sounds:

- A soft “whoosh” of air
- A light click when it turns on or off
- A quiet hum from the outdoor unit
- Gurgling or dripping sounds (that's refrigerant or condensation)

Not-So-Normal Sounds:

- Loud banging or knocking
- Buzzing or electrical zaps
- High-pitched squealing
- Constant rattling

 *Call a pro if noises are loud, new, or constant.*

Strange Smells

Normal:

- Slight dusty smell if turning on for the first time in months

Not Normal:

- **Musty** = mold or mildew inside the unit
- **Burning** = electrical issue or overheated parts
- **Rotten smell** = possible dead critter inside (yes, it happens)

 *Any bad smell that doesn't go away needs a deep clean or inspection.*

Dripping or Leaking Water

Some moisture is normal — it's how the system removes humidity.

But if you see:

- Water **dripping from the indoor unit**
- Water **pooling on the floor**
- Or **stains on the wall or ceiling...**

 Call a pro. Your **drain line** may be clogged or the unit tilted wrong.

Weak Airflow

If the air coming out feels weak:

- Check that nothing is blocking the unit
- Make sure the filter is clean
- Confirm the system is on the right mode and temp

Still weak?

 Could be a dirty blower wheel or frozen coil — both need professional care.

Not Heating or Cooling Properly

- Double-check your **remote settings**
- Try switching modes (Cool → Heat or vice versa)
- Make sure all doors/windows are closed

If the temp doesn't change or never gets comfy:

 You may have:

- A **refrigerant leak**
- A **sensor problem**
- Or dirty internal parts blocking performance

Flashing Lights or Error Codes

Some mini-splits flash a light or show a code when there's a problem.

 Look in your system's manual — or search the code online

 Or just call your local technician with the brand + code

 Don't ignore repeated flashing — your system is trying to tell you something.

Winter-Specific Issue: Ice on the Outdoor Unit

It's normal to see a **thin layer of frost** sometimes. Your unit will defrost on its own.

But if you see:

- **Thick ice build-up**
- **Frozen fan blades**
- **A completely iced-over unit**



You need service ASAP — don't chip the ice yourself!



When in Doubt, Reach Out

If something feels off and you're not sure — trust your gut. It's always better (and cheaper) to check early than to wait for a full breakdown.

We're here to help.

SECTION EIGHT: Boosting the Life of Your Investment

How to Make Your Heat Pump Last 10–15 Years or More

Your Mini-Split Is an Investment — Treat It That Way

Your heat pump wasn't cheap. But with the **right care**, it will:

- Run smoother
- Cost less to operate
- Break down less often
- Last **years longer**
- Keep your family comfortable in every season

1. Stick to a Cleaning Routine

Just like brushing your teeth keeps cavities away, regular cleaning keeps your heat pump healthy.

Here's the simple formula:



Every Month:

- Clean your filters
- Wipe dust from the head unit



Every Season:

- Clear leaves, snow, or debris from around the outdoor unit
- Check airflow and settings



Once a Year (Minimum):

- Book a full professional deep clean
- Have a certified tech inspect for wear and hidden buildup

 *Homes near the ocean or with pets may need professional cleaning every 6–8 months.*



2. Use It Properly

Here's how to **avoid early breakdowns**:



Set the temp once and let it run



Don't crank it way up or down suddenly



Use the right mode for the season

 Don't block the airflow with curtains or furniture

 Let the unit breathe — inside and out

3. Watch the Outdoor Unit in Winter

In cold months:

- Gently clear snow or ice with a broom
- Make sure water can drain away
- Never pour hot water or hit it to remove ice
- Keep it raised off the ground if possible (techs can help with this)

4. Upgrade With Smart Tools (If Compatible)

Some systems allow:

- Remote control through an app
- Smart thermostats that learn your habits
- Energy tracking so you can see what's using power

These upgrades help **optimize energy use** and keep your unit running efficiently.

5. Schedule a Yearly Check-Up (Even if Nothing's Wrong)

Think of it like a dentist visit for your system.

A yearly service:

- Catches small issues before they become big ones
- Checks for things you can't see — like leaks or mold
- Keeps your warranty valid (most manufacturers require proof of service)

 *We offer yearly service reminders — just ask us to add you to our check-up list.*

6. Don't Ignore Warning Signs

If you notice:

- Bad smells
- Weak airflow
- Strange noises
- Water leaks
- Or high energy bills...

...your system is waving a **red flag**.

Catching it early keeps repair costs down and avoids full system failure.

Protect What's Protecting Your Home

Your mini-split quietly works 24/7 to keep your home comfy and your power bills lower.

Show it a little care, and it will reward you with **years of reliable service**.

SECTION NINE: When and Why to Book a Professional Deep Clean

The Service That Keeps Your System Safe, Strong, and Smelling Fresh

What Is a Deep Clean?

A deep clean is **not** just wiping the outside or rinsing the filter.

It's a full, **inside-out cleaning** of your heat pump by a trained professional.

It goes far beyond what you can safely do at home.

What's Included in a Professional Deep Clean?

At Raya Sunshine, our deep clean includes:

Indoor Unit (Head):

- Removal of the cover, filters, and internal parts
- High-pressure cleaning of the **evaporator coil**
- Deep cleaning of the **blower wheel** and **drain pan**
- Mold, mildew, and biofilm removal
- Deodorization and sanitization

✅ **Outdoor Unit (Compressor):**

- Coil and fan cleaning
- Inspection for **leaks, ice damage, and blockages**
- Debris and dirt removal

✅ **System Check:**

- Confirming airflow, refrigerant pressure, and electrical function
- Checking for odd noises or warning signs
- Optional mold & air quality test (upon request)

😞 **Why It Matters**

Over time, your mini-split collects:

- **Mold spores**
- **Pet dander and dust**
- **Grease and smoke** (especially in kitchens)
- **Moisture**, which turns into **biofilm** (a slimy layer of bacteria)

If left untreated, this buildup can:

- Spread **bad smells** (like dirty socks or mildew)

- Make allergies and asthma worse
- Reduce airflow and efficiency
- Cause water leaks or freeze-ups
- **Void your warranty**



How Often Should I Book a Deep Clean?

Most homes need it **once a year**.

You may need it **every 6–8 months** if:

- You have pets
- You smoke indoors
- You live near saltwater
- Someone in your home has asthma, COPD, or allergies
- You run your system 24/7

 *We recommend spring and fall as ideal times to book before peak seasons.*



How It Pays for Itself

A clean system:

- Uses **less power**

- Heats and cools **more quickly**
- **Lasts longer**
- Helps avoid breakdowns that cost hundreds to repair



Many clients notice a **drop in their power bill** after cleaning.



Raya Sunshine Deep Clean = People-First Service

- No pressure, no upsells
- Family-run and veteran-owned
- Special discounts for **seniors, veterans, and first responders**
- Service you can trust from a local team that shows up, smiles, and gets it done right



Ready to Book Yours?

Call, text, or message us online.

We offer **one-time cleanings, seasonal specials, and worry-free annual plans** so you never forget.

♥ Your air. Your comfort. Your family.

Let's keep your system fresh, safe, and strong — all year long.

SECTION TEN: Rebates, Incentives & What You Might Qualify For

How to Save Big with Heat Pump Grants and Support in Nova Scotia

1. Oil to Heat Pump Affordability (OHPA) Program

This is the major financial booster if you're switching from an oil furnace:

- **Up to \$15,000 federal grant + up to \$15,000 provincial rebate = up to \$30,000 in total**
auxaire.com+91clickheat.com+9daikinatlantic.ca+9
- Covers eligible installation costs, panel upgrades, and oil tank removal
- To qualify, you must:
 - Use at least **500 L of oil** for heating in the past year
 - Live in your home year-round
 - Meet **income thresholds** (\$37K for 1 person, \$120K for 4, etc.)
reddit.com+21clickheat.com+2callsouthwest.ca+2

- You'll need a **Home Energy Assessment** before and after — the \$199 fee is reimbursed callsouthwest.ca+51clickheat.com+5daikinatlantic.ca+5

2. Efficiency Nova Scotia: Heating System Rebates

If you've bought a mini-split already, you may qualify for quick cash-back:

- **\$800 for ductless mini-splits**
- **\$1,600 for ducted central heat pumps**
- Must install within **180 days** and choose an **eligible model**
thepikegroup.ca+2daikinatlantic.ca+2daikinatlantic.ca+2discoverefficiency.com

3. Moderate-Income Heat Pump Rebate

If your income meets “moderate” guidelines, you could get:

- **\$1,000–\$3,000 per ton** of heat pump capacity via the Home Energy Assessment program
reddit.comcallsouthwest.ca+9daikinatlantic.ca+9daikinatlantic.ca+9

This rebate stacks with other programs — potentially saving **thousands more**.

4. Canada Greener Homes & EnerGuide Integration

- Federal **Greener Homes Grant** is closed to new signups, but ongoing projects still qualify.
- Pre- and post-retrofit EnerGuide audits are part of OHPA and can unlock more savings
daikinatlantic.ca+2daikinatlantic.ca+2reddit.com+21
clickheat.com+3discoverefficiency.com+3thepikegroup.ca+3

5. Instant Savings & Extra Incentives

- **Instant in-store rebates:** e.g., \$400 off heat pump water heaters, \$45 off smart thermostats
thepikegroup.ca
- **Nova Scotia Power promotions** through partner contractors — ask your installer nspower.ca

Example Household Savings (Combined)

1. Assessment Route:

- Home Energy Assessment → unlocks moderate-income rebate of \$3,000
 - \$800 mini-split rebate
 - Up to \$15,000 (federal) + \$15,000 (provincial) via OHPA
- **Total potential savings: up to \$33,800**

2. Quick Install Route:

- Mini-split purchase → \$800 rebate
 - Optional in-store discounts
- **Total savings: ~\$800–\$1,000 up front**

How to Apply — Step by Step

Step	What to Do	Benefit
1. Book a Home Energy Assessment	Required for OHPA & moderate-income rebates	Identifies best upgrades
2. Choose an eligible heat pump	Look at Efficiency NS approved list	Ensures you qualify
3. Schedule installation (within 180 days)	Must complete within program window	Unlocks instant rebates
4. File rebate claims	Gather purchase, installation &	Get cash back
5. Submit post-install audit	Confirms savings & system performance	Releases remaining rebates

Pro Tips from Nova Scotia Experts

- Let your contractor guide you — they'll know the approved models list
- Apply early — funds are limited and popular programs fill fast
[discoverefficiency.com+3callsouthwest.ca+3reddit.com+3efficiencyns.ca+81clickheat.com+8auxaire.com+8efficiencyns.ca+10daikinatlantic.ca+10callsouthwest.ca+10discoverefficiency.comdaikinatlantic.ca+1reddit.com+1](#)
- Seniors, veterans, and first responders may qualify for extra contractor discounts — ask about “special pricing”

Bottom line: Nova Scotia homeowners can unlock massive savings—up to \$30K+—on a heat pump upgrade, while boosting comfort and lowering bills. 

SECTION ELEVEN: Seasonal Checklist for Mini-Split Owners

Simple Steps for Each Season to Keep Your System Running Like New

SPRING CLEAN & CHECK-UP

-  Clean your filters
-  Wipe down the indoor unit
-  Clear leaves and debris from around the outdoor unit
-  Test cooling mode before hot days arrive
-  Book your **annual professional deep clean**
-  Use “Fan” mode to circulate fresh air on mild days
-  Check remote batteries

 *Pro Tip: Spring is the perfect time to get ahead of summer heat — and to beat the service rush!*

SUMMER COOLING GAME PLAN

-  Use “Cool” or “Dry” mode to control temp and humidity
-  Set the thermostat between **22–24°C**

- ✓ Keep windows and doors closed when the unit is running
- ✓ Close blinds or curtains during the day to block heat
- ✓ Don't constantly adjust the temperature
- ✓ Clean your filters monthly (or more if you have pets)
- ✓ Monitor for any strange smells or weak airflow

 *Pro Tip: A ceiling fan on low helps move cool air and ease the load on your system.*

FALL TRANSITION PREP

- ✓ Switch to “Heat” mode and test the system early
- ✓ Clean filters after summer use
- ✓ Clear leaves, twigs, and clutter from the outdoor unit
- ✓ Adjust thermostat for cooler weather (**20–22°C**)
- ✓ Schedule maintenance or a second deep clean if needed
- ✓ Prep your home — seal drafts, check insulation, close basement vents

 *Pro Tip: Get your home heat-ready before the first frost so you're never caught off guard.*



WINTER WARMING ROUTINE

- ✓ Keep outdoor unit clear of **snow and ice**
- ✓ Run “Heat” mode and leave it steady — avoid frequent on/off
- ✓ Check for frost or ice buildup and allow for **defrost cycles**
- ✓ Monitor airflow — it should feel warm and consistent
- ✓ Use backup heating (like baseboards) only if needed on extreme cold days
- ✓ Clean filters more often if running daily
- ✓ Watch for **warning signs** (smells, drips, loud noises)

 *Pro Tip: Don't worry about a little frost — it's normal. But thick ice = time to call for help.*



Year-Round Habits (All Seasons)

- ✓ Clean filters monthly
- ✓ Don't block airflow (inside or out)
- ✓ Wipe the unit regularly
- ✓ Let it run — don't turn it off and on constantly
- ✓ Watch and listen for anything unusual
- ✓ Schedule **at least one deep clean a year**



Want Help Staying On Track?

We offer:

- Seasonal service reminders
- Annual maintenance plans
- Easy phone or text booking
- Discounts for **veterans, seniors, and first responders**

SECTION TWELVE: Who to Call and When

Your Trusted Team for Heat Pump Cleaning, Maintenance & Support in Nova Scotia

DIY or Call a Pro? Here's the Rule:

Situation	What To Do
Basic monthly filter cleaning	 You can do this yourself
Mild dust or wipe-down	 Do it yourself
Weak airflow	 Try filter clean first. If no change → Call us
Strange smells or drips	 Call Raya Sunshine
Ice or frost build-up	 Some frost is normal — thick ice means trouble
Bad noise (rattling, squealing, grinding)	 Call immediately
Unit not heating/cooling properly	 Likely needs a pro inspection
Yearly deep clean or tune-up	 We've got you covered

Why Homeowners Choose Raya Sunshine

We're not just another HVAC company — we're your **local, veteran family-run team**, rooted right here in Nova Scotia.

Our Promise:

-  **Clear, honest communication**
-  **No-pressure, no-fluff deep cleaning**
-  **Red Seal certified partners for technical work**
-  **Indoor air quality focus** for families, seniors & veterans
-  **We show up — on time, and with care**

We Specialize In:

- Deep cleaning of ductless mini-split heat pumps
- Performance checkups for year-round comfort
- Warranty-friendly service plans
- Veteran, senior, and first responder discounts
- Community-first service with a heart

We Support:

-  **Veterans**
-  **RCMP & First Responders**
-  **Seniors**
-  **Local homeowners who want comfort, safety, and energy independence**

We believe in **people before profit** and **clarity over confusion**. Whether you're a homeowner, a landlord, or helping a loved one stay safe at home, we're here to help.

How to Reach Us

Raya Sunshine Heat Pumps

 *A Veteran Family-Owned Nova Scotia Business*

 **Call/Text:** (902) 209-3295

 **Email:**

service@rayasunshineheatpumpcleaners.energy

 **Website:** www.rayasunshineheatpumpcleaners.energy

 **Service Areas:** Eastern Shore, Dartmouth, HRM, Truro & beyond

 **Socials:** Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn
[@rayasunshineheatpumps](#)

Need a Check-Up or Deep Clean?

Don't wait until it breaks — let's keep your heat pump:

-  Clean
-  Efficient
-  Safe
-  And saving you money

 Book online or message us now — your comfort is our mission.

SECTION THIRTEEN: Bonus – Smart Home Integration & Tech Add-Ons

Upgrade Your Comfort, Control, and Convenience

Yes, Your Heat Pump Can Be Smart

Many newer heat pump models — especially ductless mini-splits — are compatible with smart controls. This means you can manage your system from your **phone, tablet, or even your voice assistant.**

Let's explore what's possible.

1. Smart Thermostat Control

Some mini-splits work with third-party smart thermostats or brand-specific control hubs.

 Features include:

- Scheduling: set times for heating or cooling
- Remote control: adjust the temperature while you're away
- Energy tracking: see how much power you're using
- Geofencing: your system turns on/off based on your location

 Popular options:

- **Daikin One+, Mitsubishi Kumo Cloud, Honeywell D6 Pro**
- **Sensibo Sky and Cielo Breez** (retrofit-style smart controllers)

Check with your installer or technician to see what's compatible with your model.

2. Voice Assistant Integration

Some systems connect to **Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, or Apple HomeKit.**

Just say:

“Hey Google, set the living room to 21 degrees.”

And it's done.

This is perfect for families with accessibility needs or people who just love hands-free control.

3. Smart Humidity and Air Quality Add-Ons

To level up your indoor air comfort, you can add:

- ✓ **Smart humidity sensors**
- ✓ **Indoor air quality monitors**
- ✓ **Smart vents and fans**
- ✓ **Smart dehumidifiers or purifiers**

These can work alongside your mini-split to create a full **home comfort ecosystem.**

4. Solar Pairing for Energy Independence

If you're serious about savings and sustainability, consider pairing your heat pump with:

- **Solar panels**
- **Battery backup systems (like Tesla Powerwall or FranklinWH)**
- **Smart home energy management systems**

 *In Nova Scotia, solar rebates and 0% financing options may be available. Ask Raya Sunshine about bundled offers.*

Should You Upgrade?

You might benefit from smart add-ons if:

- You travel a lot
- You want to lower your power bill
- You love convenience
- You want to **track and manage your energy use** more closely
- You have seniors or children who need consistent comfort without fuss

➡  Most smart control systems cost **\$100–\$300 installed** and can **pay for themselves in savings.**

Ask Raya Sunshine for Tech Recommendations

We can:

- Check if your current system supports smart add-ons
- Recommend affordable and reliable upgrades
- Help you connect your system to Wi-Fi or apps
- Bundle smart controls with your next service visit

Final Message from the Raya Sunshine Family

Dear Homeowner,

Thank you for taking the time to read this guide. Whether you're brand new to heat pump ownership or just looking to get more out of your system, we hope these pages have helped you feel more confident, more informed, and more in control of your home's comfort and energy use.

At **Raya Sunshine**, we're not just in the business of cleaning machines — we're in the business of **taking care of people**.

We're a **veteran family-owned team** that believes in honest service, dependable care, and treating every home like it's our own. We built this guide to give you the same clarity and confidence we give our clients every day — face-to-face, door-to-door, and home by home.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or just want to understand your system better, we're here.

 **Call/Text: (902) 209-3295**

 **Email:**

service@rayasunshineheatpumpcleaners.energy

 **Website:** www.rayasunshineheatpumpcleaners.energy

 **Proudly serving Nova Scotia with heart, hustle, and hometown values**

From our family to yours —

Stay safe, breathe clean, and take control of your comfort.

With gratitude,

The Chapman Family

 *Raya Sunshine Heat Pumps*

Veteran-Owned • People-First • Nova Scotia Proud



Raya Sunshine Heat Pump Cleaners Inc.

Empowering Sustainable Comfort



NEXT LEVEL DEEP CLEANS

VETERAN - RCMP - SENIOR

EXCLUSIVE "D2D" OFFERS

LOCAL VETERAN OWNED & OPERATED

902 209 3295

SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES