

*Sound*

**Geothermal Corporation**



*Comfort from the ground up*

3962 Alpine Valley Circle  
Sandy, Utah 84092

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## **Utah Geothermal Working Group**

**Low Temperature Geothermal**

**April 22, 2008**

**GeoExchange<sup>SM</sup>: Applications for Low Temperature Geothermal**

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# Agenda

- General GSHP Principals
- Benefits of GSHP
- Successful Implementations
- Questions/Discussions

# Sound

**Geothermal Corp.**



*Comfort from the ground up*

3962 E. Alpine Valley Circle, Sandy UT 84092



**Ground Source Heat Pumps**

**GX**



**Geothermal Heat pumps**

**Ground Coupled Heat Pumps**

**Earth Coupled Heat Exchanger**



Ground Source Heating and Cooling is...

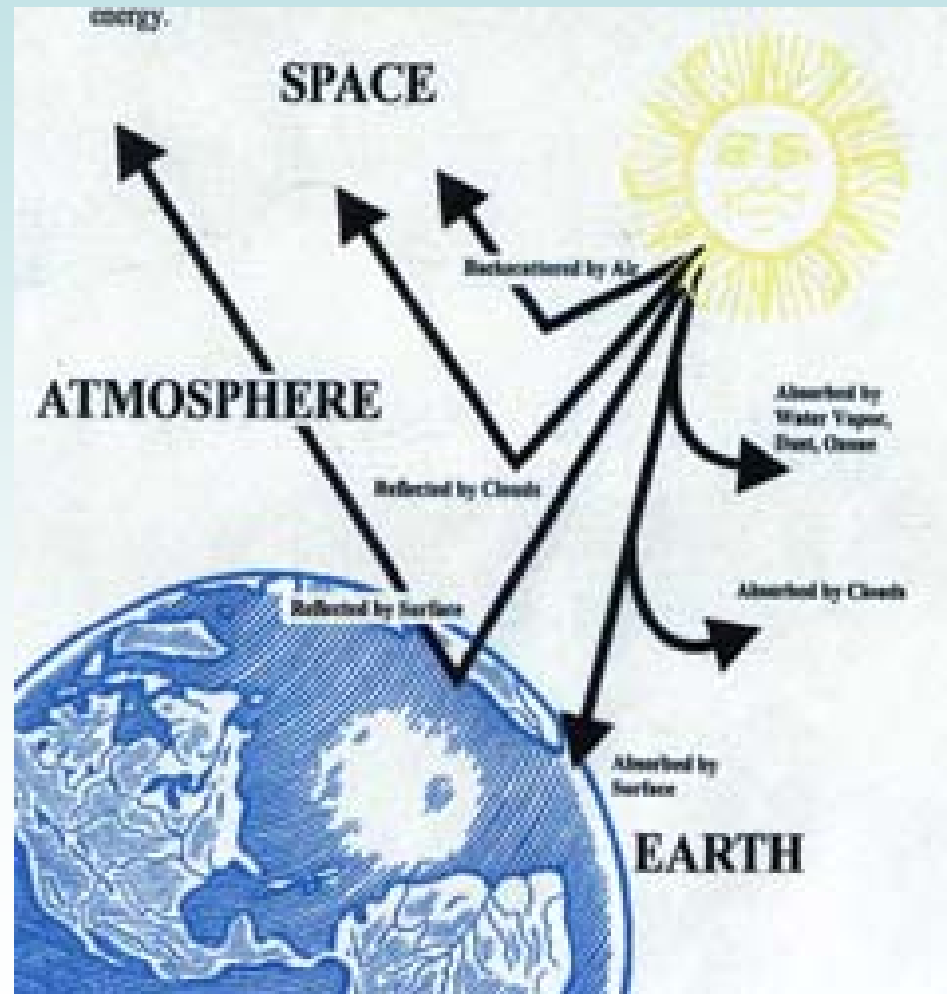
The indirect  
utilization of  
Solar  
Energy.



# ***Earth stores solar energy...***

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- Much reflected back by clouds & water
- Some absorbed by atmosphere
- 47% absorbed by earth

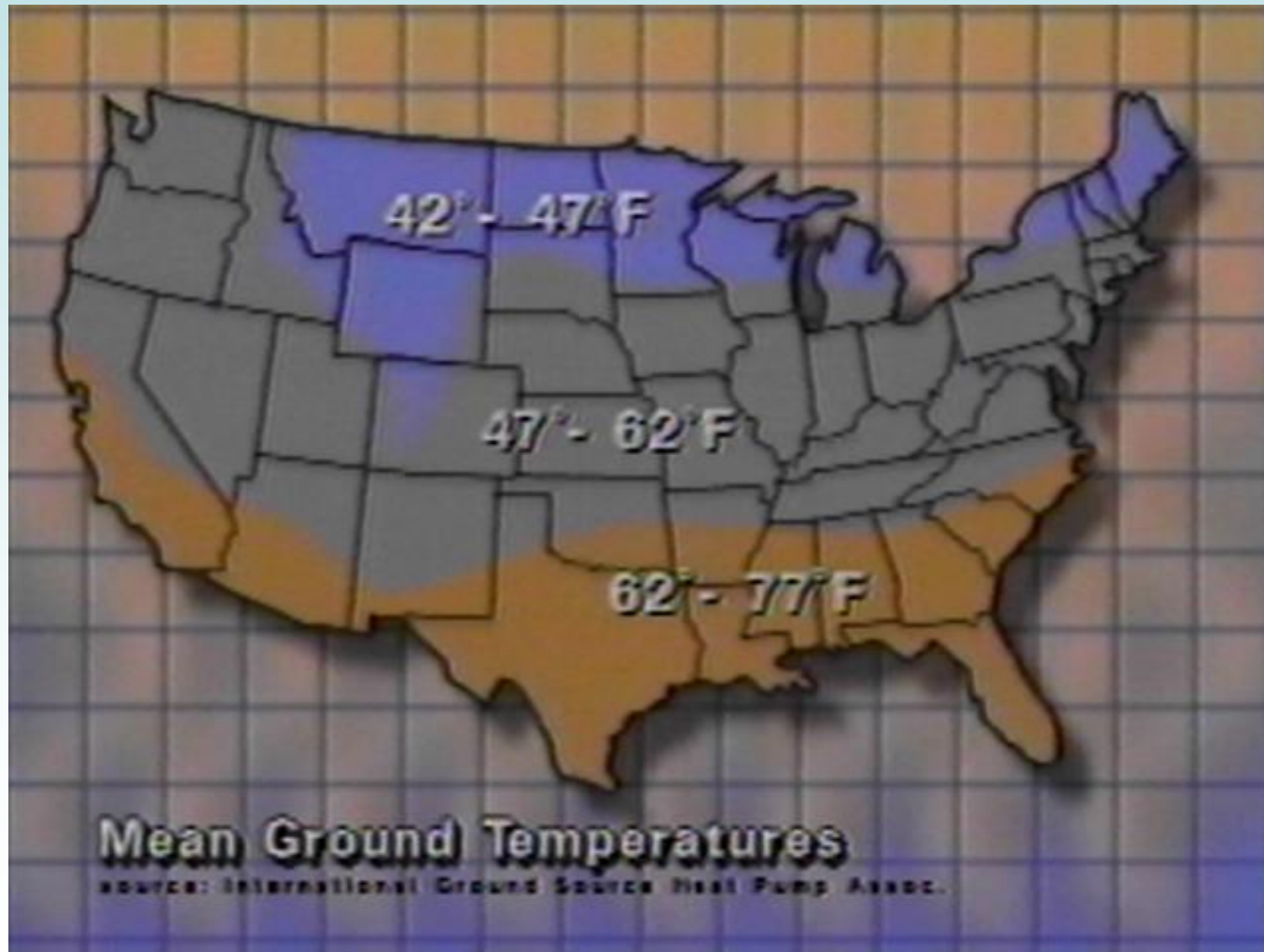


# ***Relatively Constant Earth Temp***



# ***Earth Temps Are Predictable***

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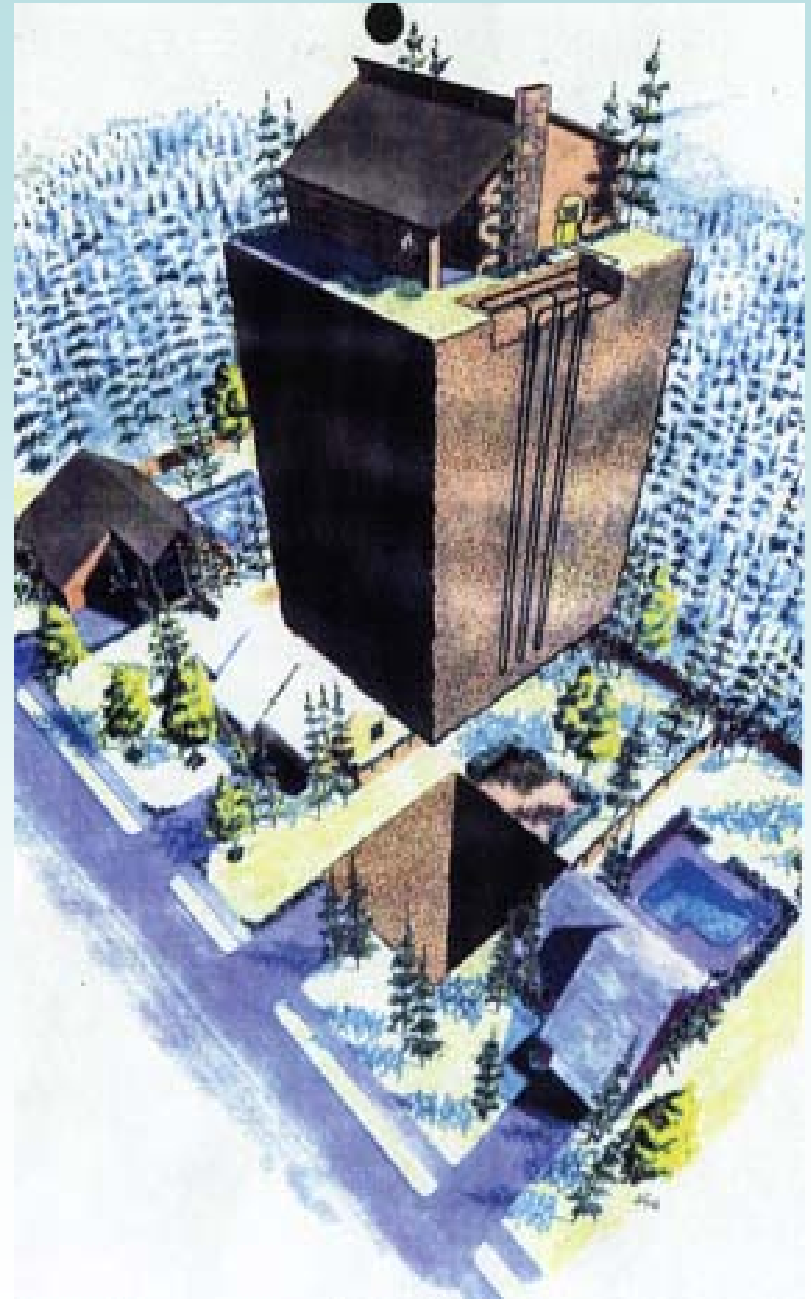
# ***Big Mass...***

***Low Temperature  
High Storage Potential***

## **For Example:**

**Typical Home Site**

- 400 ft down x lot size**
- Enough energy storage for 15 homes**





# ***How do we take advantage of this free energy source?***

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# GX Heat Pump Systems

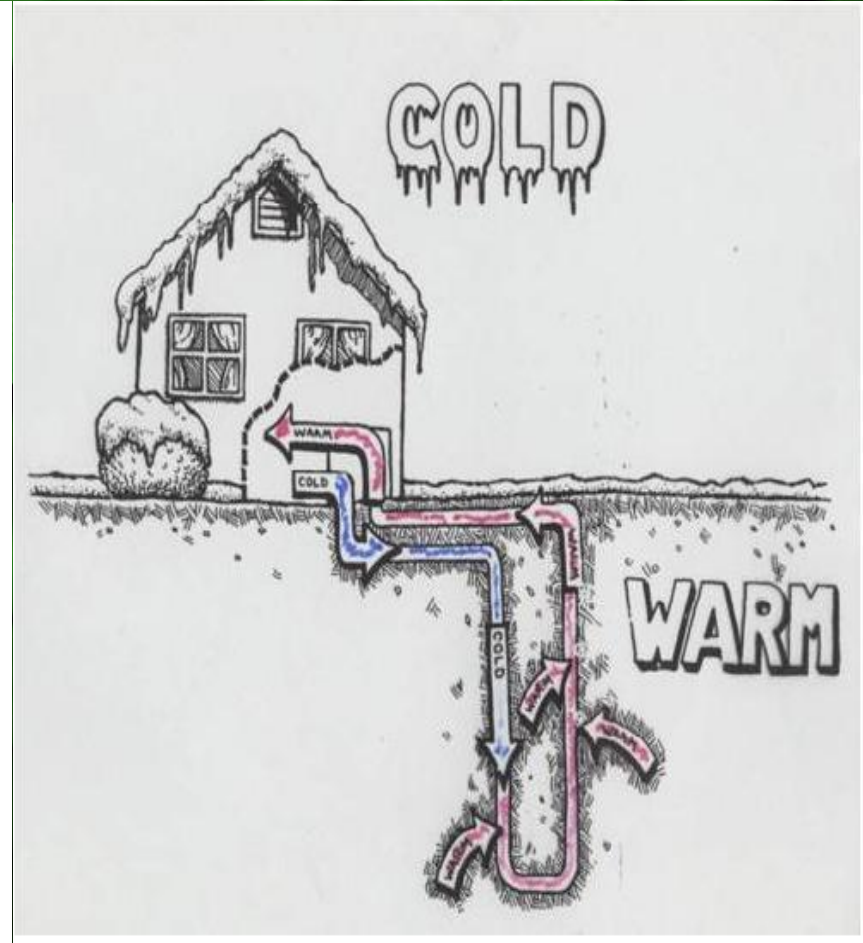
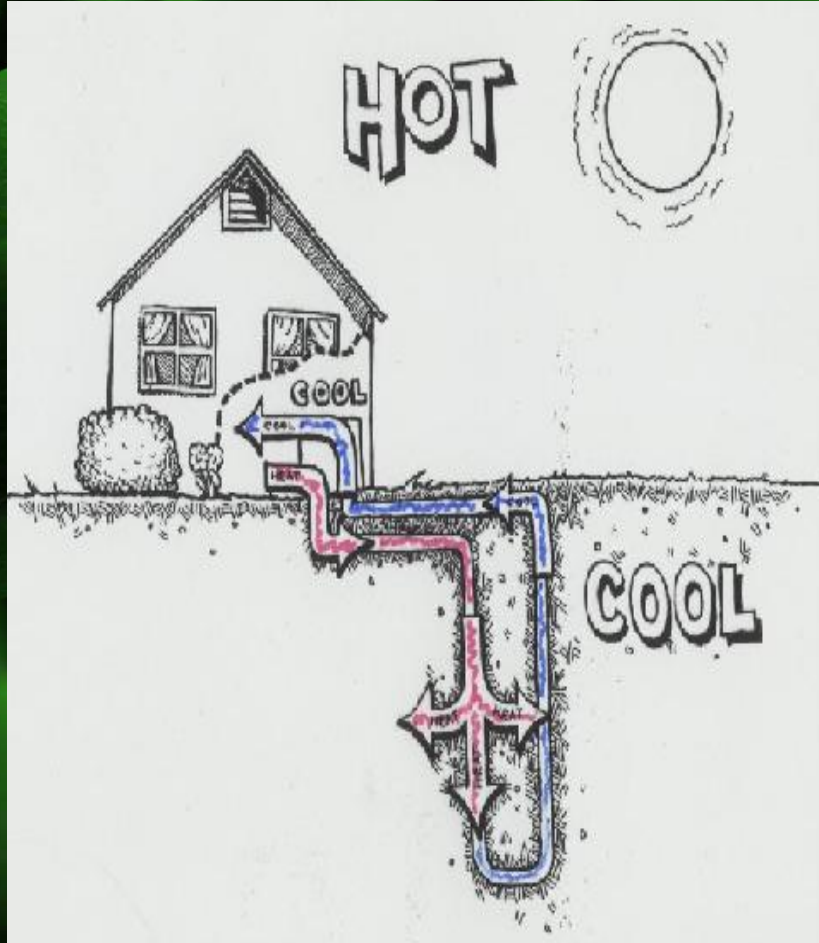
How do heat pumps work?

Heat & cool buildings using the natural heat-storing ability of the earth.

▪



# Ground Source Heating and Cooling...



Uses a Heat Pump to move energy from a space into the ground or, energy from the ground into a space.



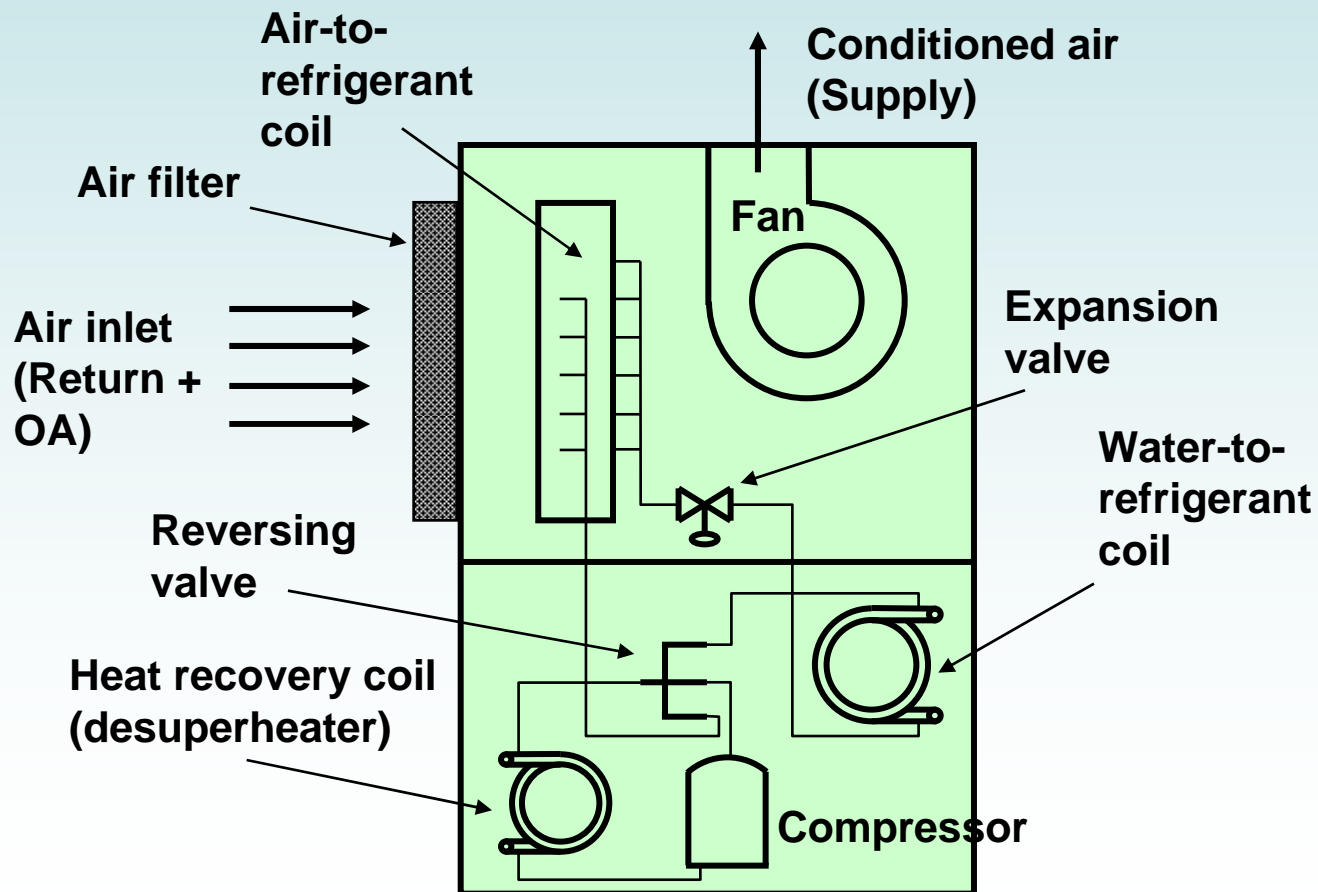


# Why GHPs are more efficient than other HVAC equipment?

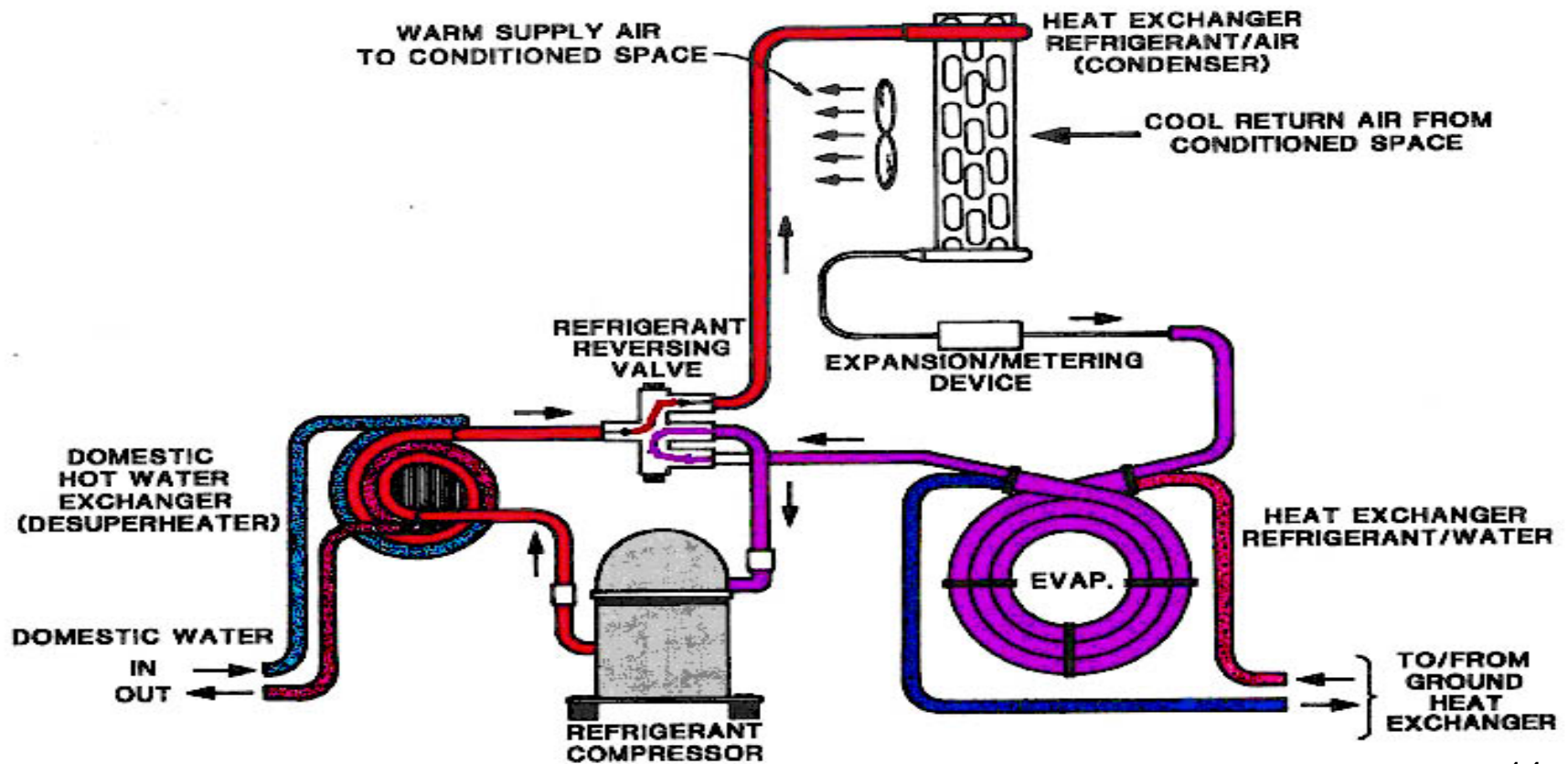
- GHPs exchange heat with the earth, rather than with ambient air
- Earth provides a much better heat exchange medium
  - Stable year-round temperature
  - Generally cooler than ambient air when cooling is needed, and warmer than ambient air when heating is needed
- Water is a better heat transfer medium than air
  - They use a small amount of energy to move a greater amount of energy.

# Typical Geothermal Heat Pump

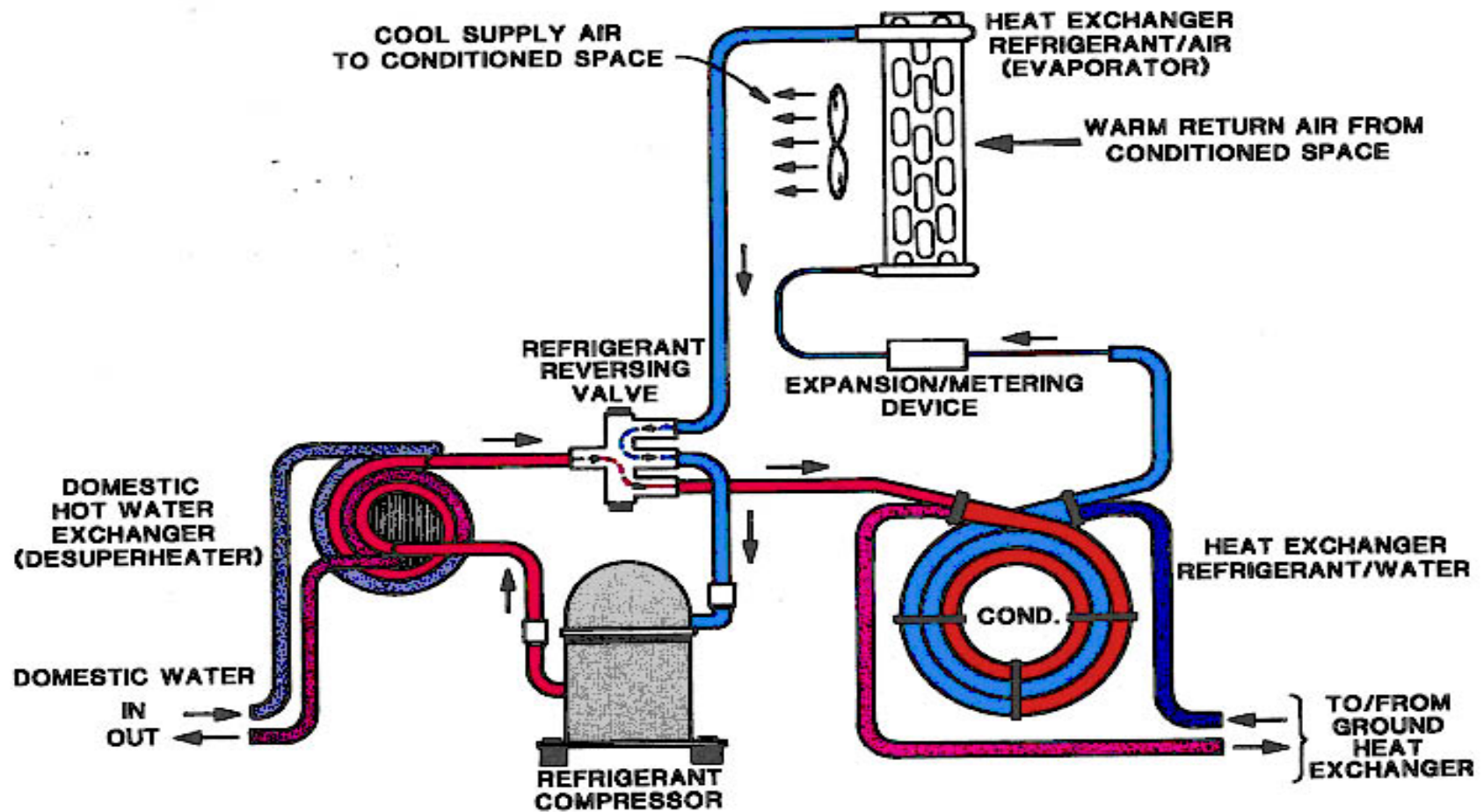
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# GSHP Operation: Heating Mode



# GSHP Operation: Cooling Mode



Cooling Operation



# SAMPLE EFFICIENCIES

Propane/Natural Gas –

80% - 95% (COP .85 - .95)

Electricity –

100% (COP 1.0)

Air Source HP –

220% - 280% (COP 2.2 – 2.8)

GSHP –

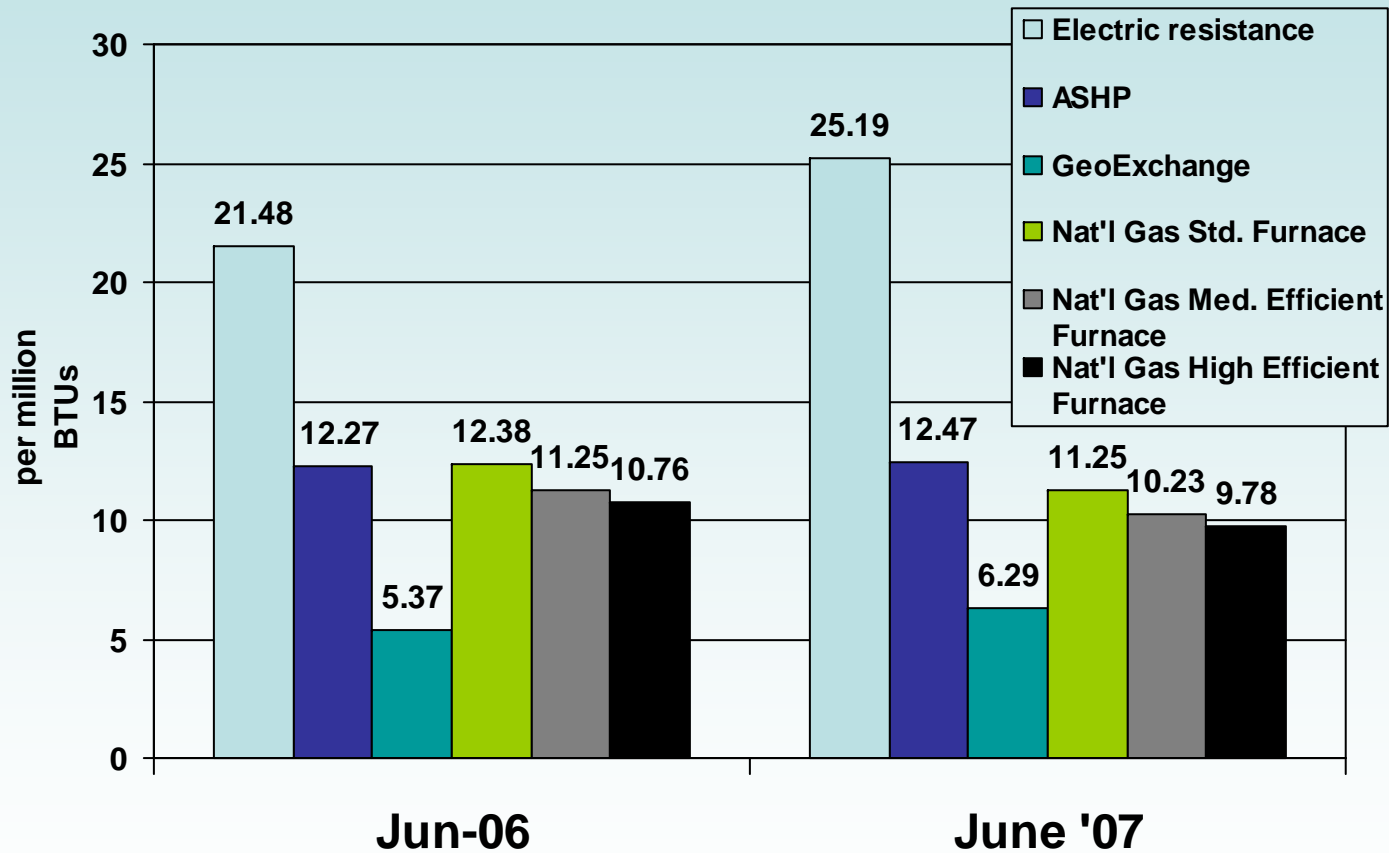
320% - 400% (COP 3.2 – 6.0)

(Cooling)

EER 12.0 – 28

SEER 15 – 35

# Fuel Cost Comparison



# GeoExchange and the Environment

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Better Efficiencies — Reduced fuel consumption  
Lower Carbon Footprint

Lower Local and Cumulative (Plant) Emissions

No local CO<sub>2</sub> or NO<sub>x</sub> emissions.

No gas or oil consumed on site.



## For example...

A conventional 4000 ft<sup>2</sup> home in Salt Lake County would produce;

1. An average of \$224/month in utility costs.
2. 15,856.7 Lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr, Heating (generated onsite).
3. 4,547.4 Lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr, Cooling (at coal plant).

As opposed to a GX Heat Pump...

1. An average of \$99/month in utility costs.
2. 5,460.3 Lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr, Heating (at coal plant).
3. 2,569.2 Lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr, Cooling (at coal plant).

Emissions data provided by the Department of Energy.



# A perspective for the future...

## In 10-years this Ground Source home...

Will have released 62-tons less CO<sub>2</sub> than a typical home.

Will have saved the home owner more than \$15,000 in energy costs.

## In 25-years...

Greater independence from fossil fuels.

Increased home value.



The background of the entire slide is a close-up photograph of numerous green leaves, likely from a plant like clover or a similar leafy green, which are slightly out of focus, creating a soft, natural texture.

For a community...

If 500 homes in Utah utilized ground source...

4.2 Million less Lbs. of CO<sub>2</sub> would be produced each year.

(A 53.1% greenhouse gas reduction over a conventional home.)

That equates to...

~234 Jeep Cherokees or 300 mid-sized autos .

~2,876 Trees.

~575 Acres of Green Space.

...a higher quality of life.



A misty forest scene with tall trees and a path covered in daisies. The sun is shining through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The text is overlaid on the image in a yellow, sans-serif font.

Some numbers;

For every 300,000 tons of GX ...

23-Billion kWh avoided consumption.

18,000 MW avoided winter capacity.

25,000 MW avoided summer capacity.

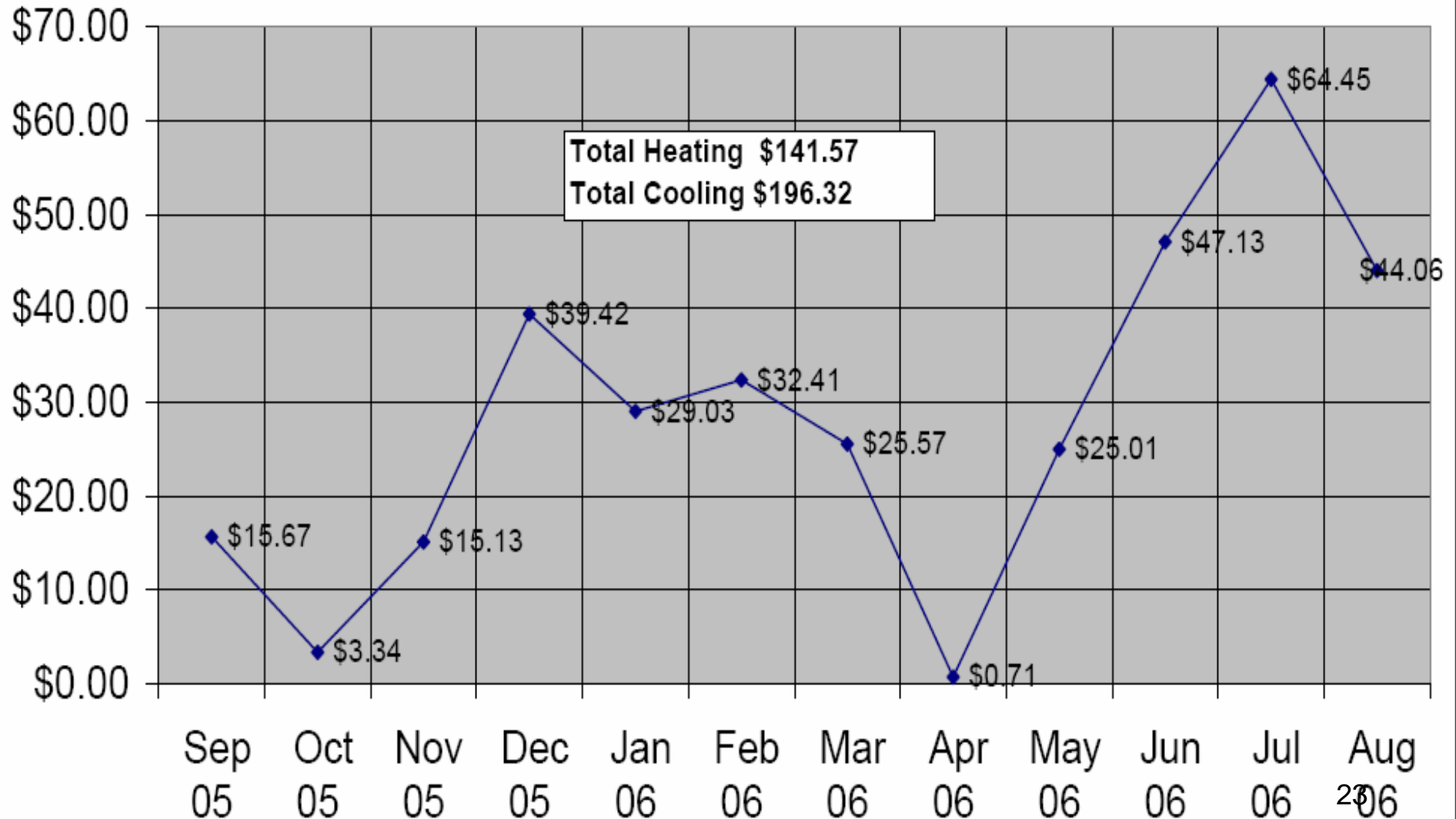
17.3 million avoided tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

650,000 cars taken off the road.

11-million barrels of crude.

Data provided by the E.P.A.  
[digitalblasphemy.com](http://digitalblasphemy.com)

## Heating & Cooling Costs 1700 Sq Ft Rambler South Jordan Ut Sept 05 thru Aug 06





A photograph of a modern, single-story medical clinic building with large glass windows and a central entrance. The building is surrounded by a parking lot filled with various vehicles, including a white van, several pickup trucks, and sedans. The scene is set against a clear blue sky with some light clouds. A tall black light pole stands in the foreground on the left. Trees with yellowing autumn leaves are visible on the right and in the background. The ground is covered with fallen leaves.

# Rural Medical Clinic

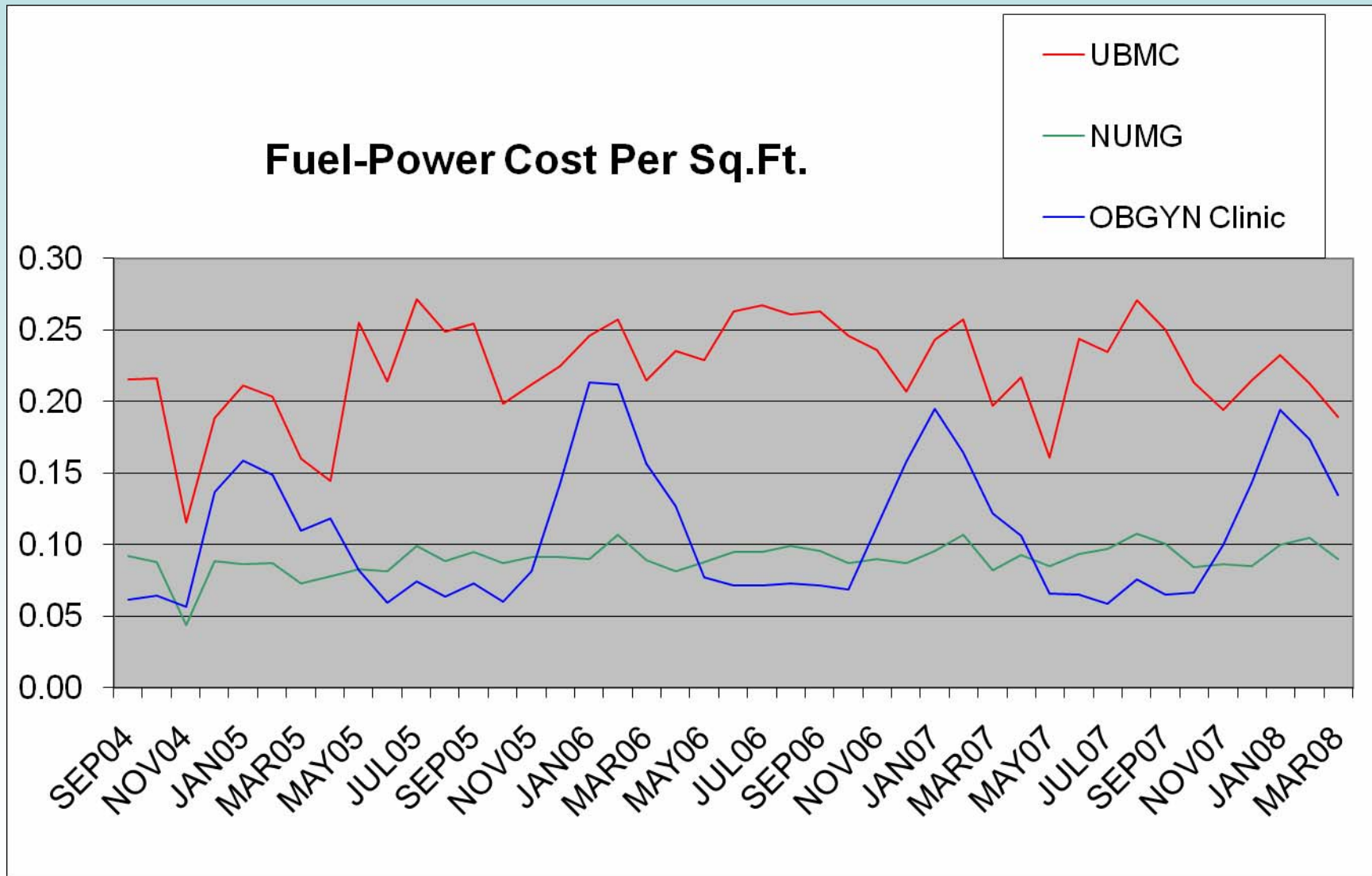
35,000 sq. ft.

2004 to March 2008 Fuel Cost:

**\$0.095 ^ft/mo (38% fuel cost reduction)**

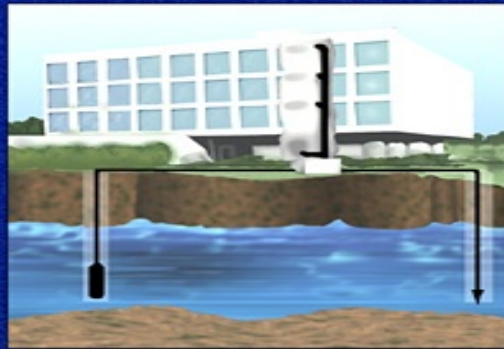


# UINTAH BASIN MEDICAL CLINIC





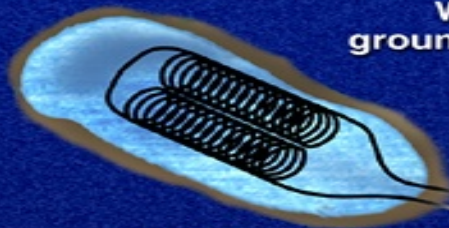
# GHP system options



Wells to groundwater



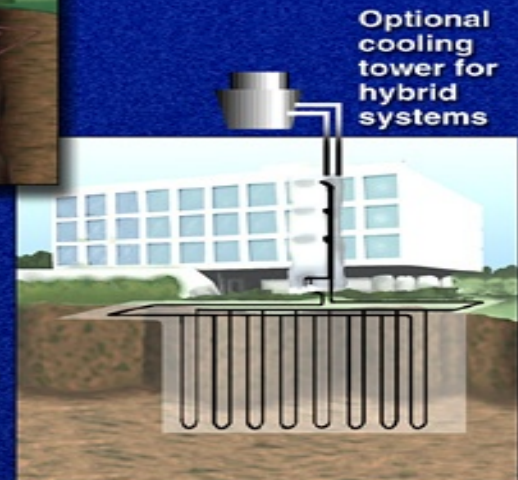
Surface water loops



Surface water loop



Ground heat exchangers in vertical bores



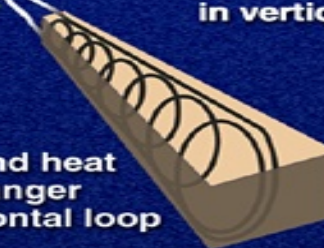
Optional cooling tower for hybrid systems

Matrix of ground heat exchangers in vertical bores



Standing column well

Ground heat exchanger horizontal loop





## Horizontal Slinky Loop





Horizontal Slinky Loop





## Horizontal Slinky Loop



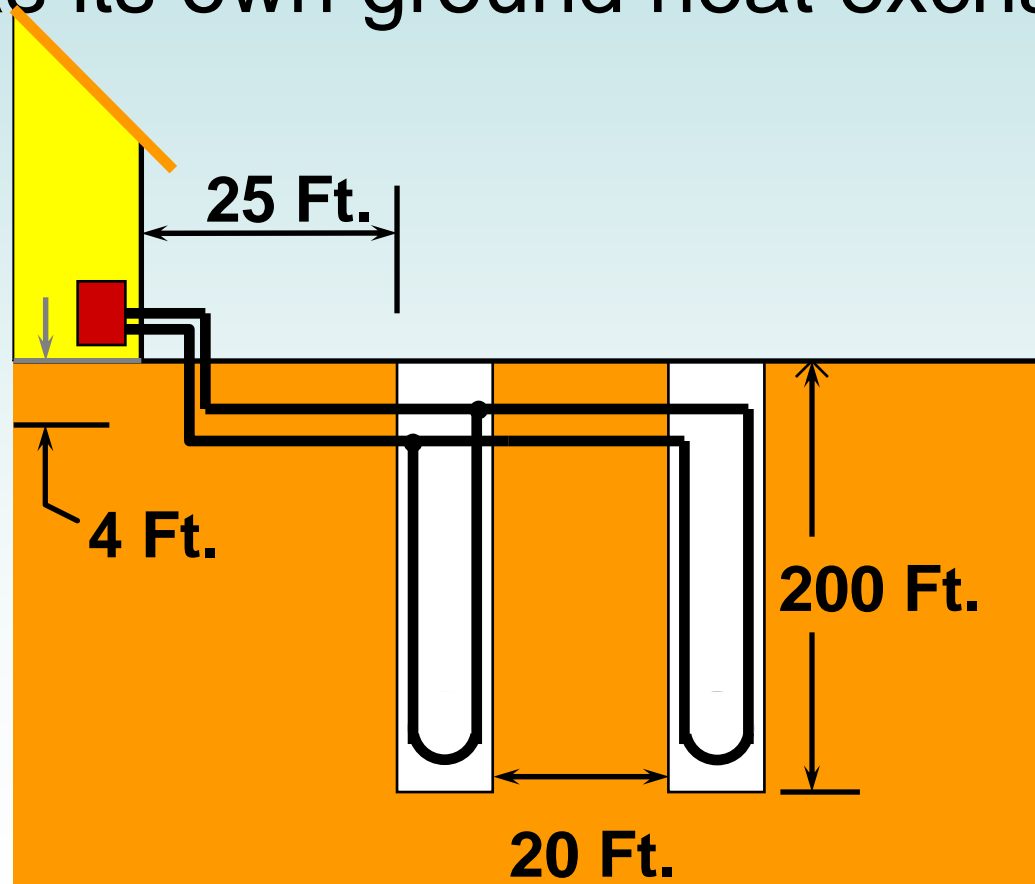


## Horizontal Slinky Loop

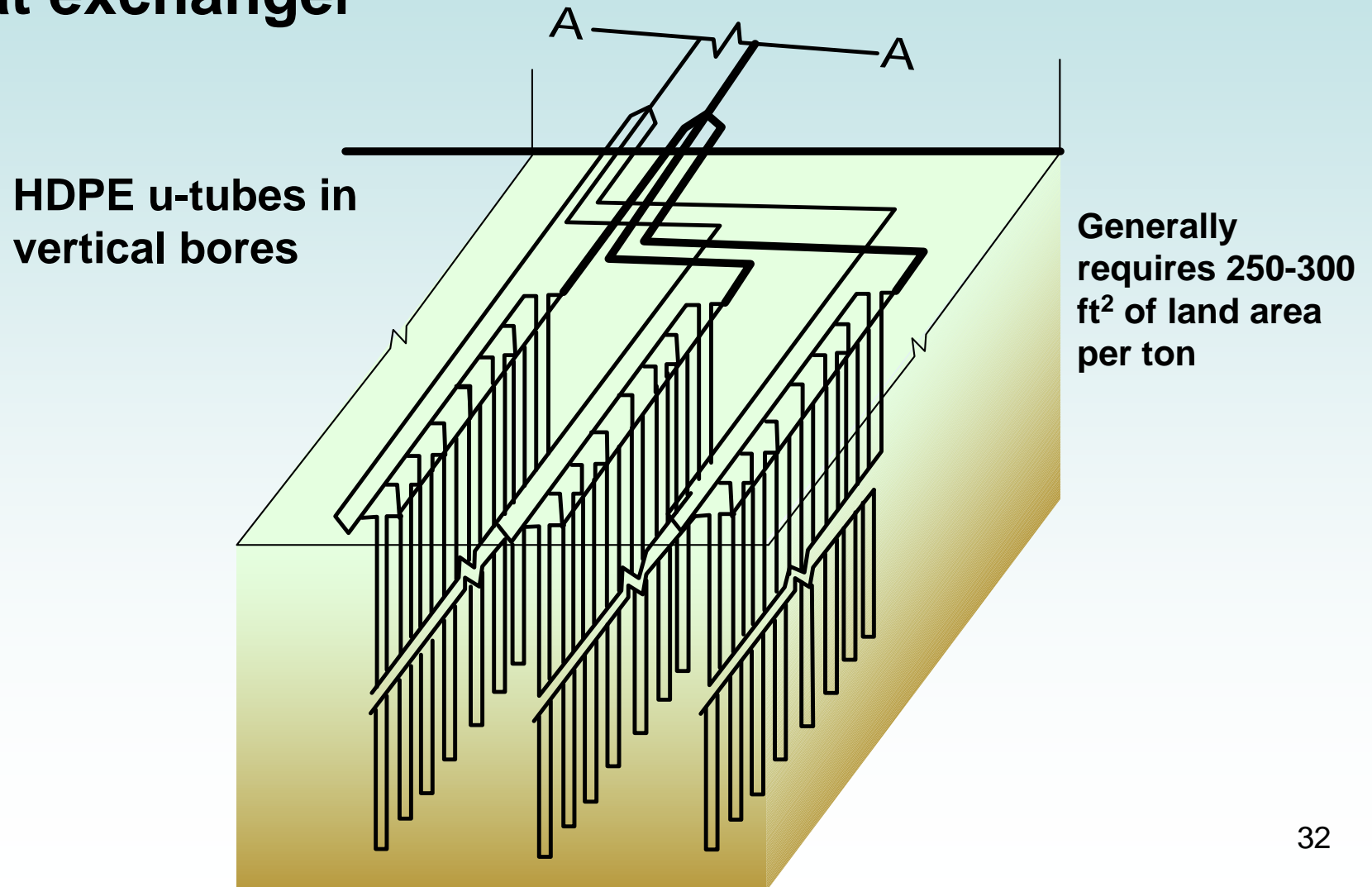




Residential systems: Each home typically has its own ground heat exchanger



# Common loop conditioned by vertical ground heat exchanger









# POND / LAKE SYSTEM





# POND / LAKE SYSTEM

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# **POND / LAKE SYSTEM**

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# What we need to know about the earth before design of the loop.

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- Soil properties – Type of soil
- Earth temperature
- Formation Thermal Conductivity ( $k$  - Btu/hr-ft-°F)
  - A measure of a material's ability to conduct heat.
- Formation Thermal Diffusivity ( $\alpha=k/\rho c$  - ft<sup>2</sup>/day )
  - Ratio of heat conduction rate to heat storage capacity.
- Excavation or drilling characteristics

# Shallow Loops-

## Soil Thermal Groups

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- **Coarse-Grained**
  - Water content has large effect
  - Higher values of thermal conductivity if dirty
- **Fine-Grained**
  - Silt or Clay
  - Silts have higher thermal conductivity values
- **Loam**
  - Mixture of sand, silt and clay

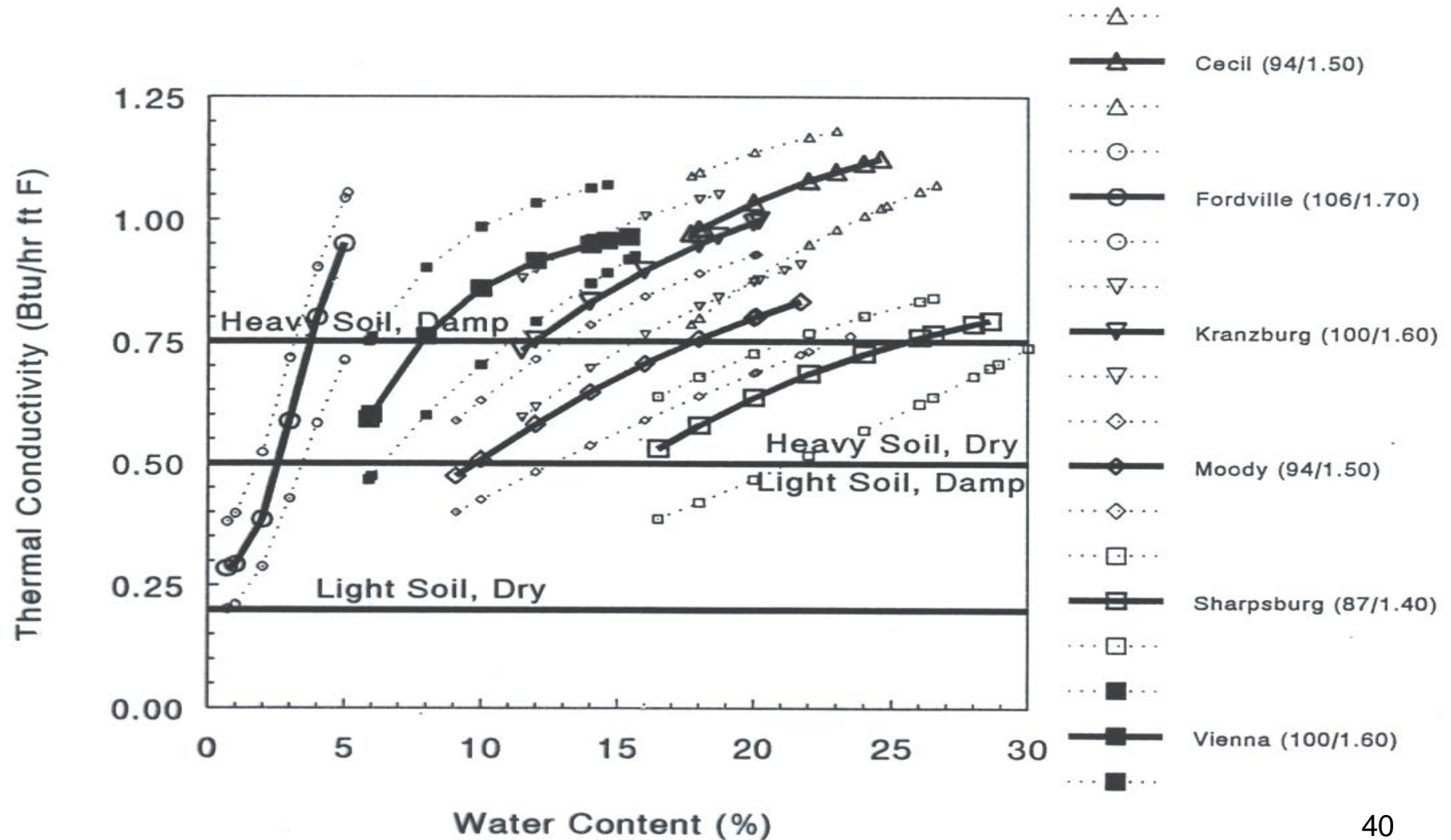


# Soil Thermal Properties

Thermal Texture Class	Thermal Conductivity		Thermal Diffusivity	
	W/m <sup>°K</sup>	Btu/ft hr <sup>°F</sup>	cm <sup>2</sup> /sec	ft <sup>2</sup> /day
Sand (or gravel)	.77	0.44	.0045	.42
Silt	1.67	0.96	—	—
Clay	1.11	0.64	.0054	.50
Loam	.91	0.52	.0049	.46
Saturated Sand	2.50	1.44	.0093	.86
Saturated Silt or Clay	1.67	0.96	.0066	.61



# Moisture content is very important:





# Vertical Boreholes

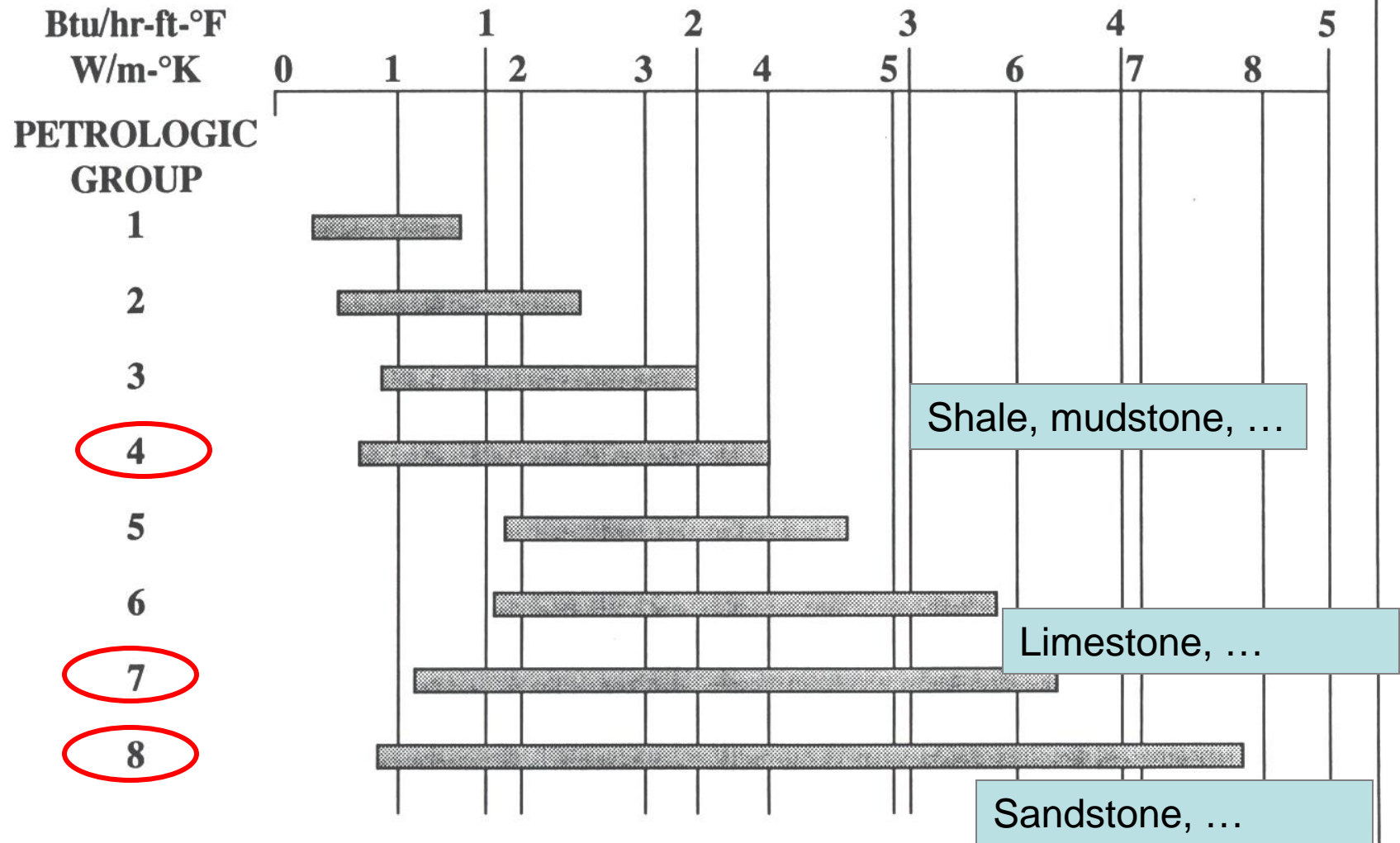
Most of the GX sites in Utah will fall into one of three hard-rock categories.

However, thermal conductivity is highly variable.

Petrologic Groups	
Petrologic Group Number	Principal Rock Type
1	Pumice, obsidian, perlite
2	Basalts
3	Andesite, rhyolite
4	Mudstones
5	Granite, granodiorite, quartz, monzonite, diorite, diabase, gabbro, peridotite
6	Schist, amphibolite, gneiss, phyllite
7	Limestone, dolomite, marble
8	Sandstone and tuff



# Thermal Conductivities of Petrologic Groups

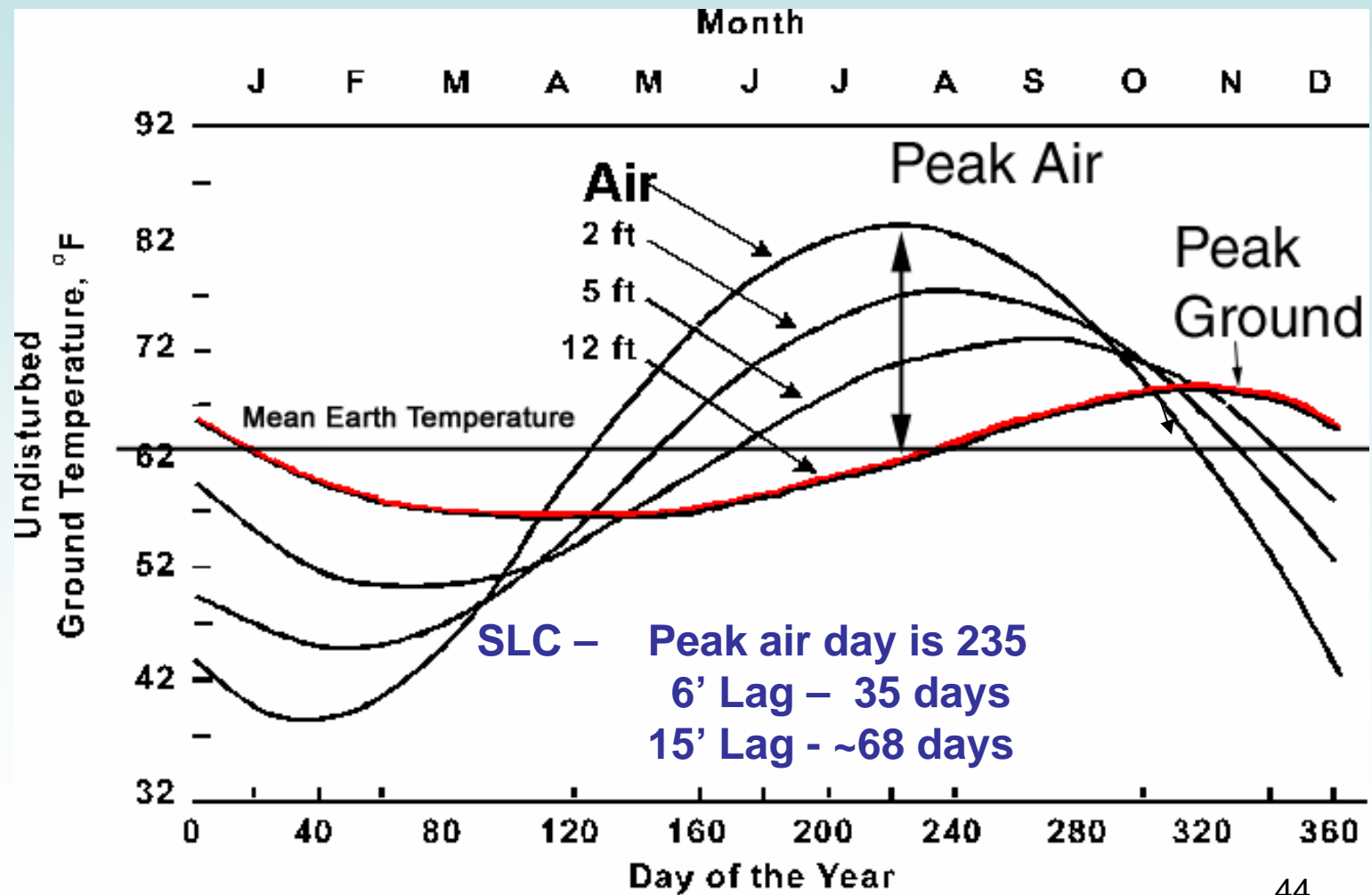




# What we need to know about the earth before design of the loop.

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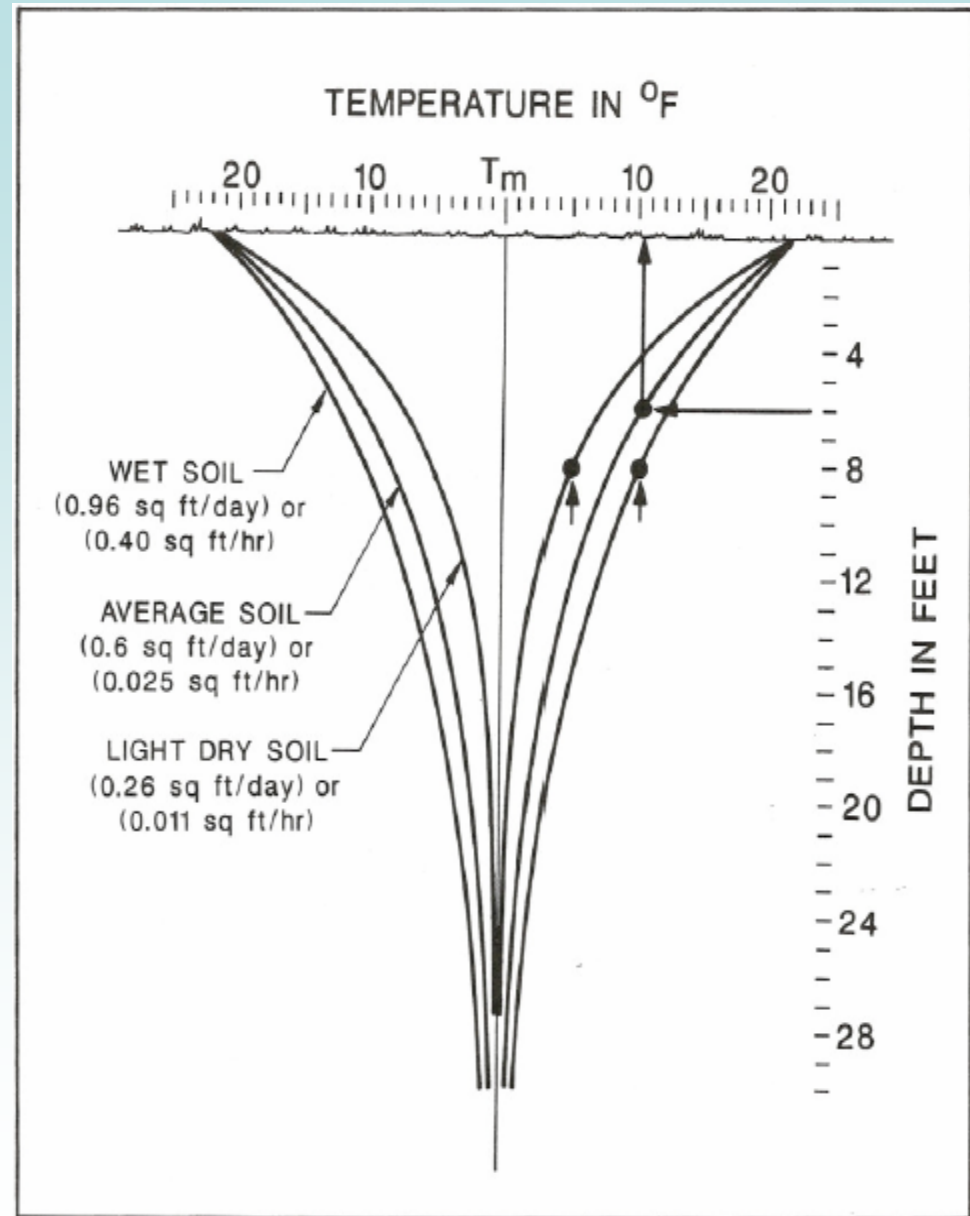
# Constant Earth Temperatures Compared to Air





# Soil Temperature

- Soil temperature is variable to about 26 feet.
- At ~26 feet the temperature is  $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$  of the mean surface air temperature.
- Generally, below ~26' to approximately 1,000', the earth temperature will remain ~constant.
- Geologic anomalies (faults, thermal intrusions, etc.) may change this rule of thumb.



# What we need to know about the earth before design of the loop.

- Soil properties – Type of soil
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# Formation Thermal Conductivity Testing

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Other than building load distribution, soil (earth) conditions are the largest factor in determining the shortest necessary loop length, either conventional or hybrid.

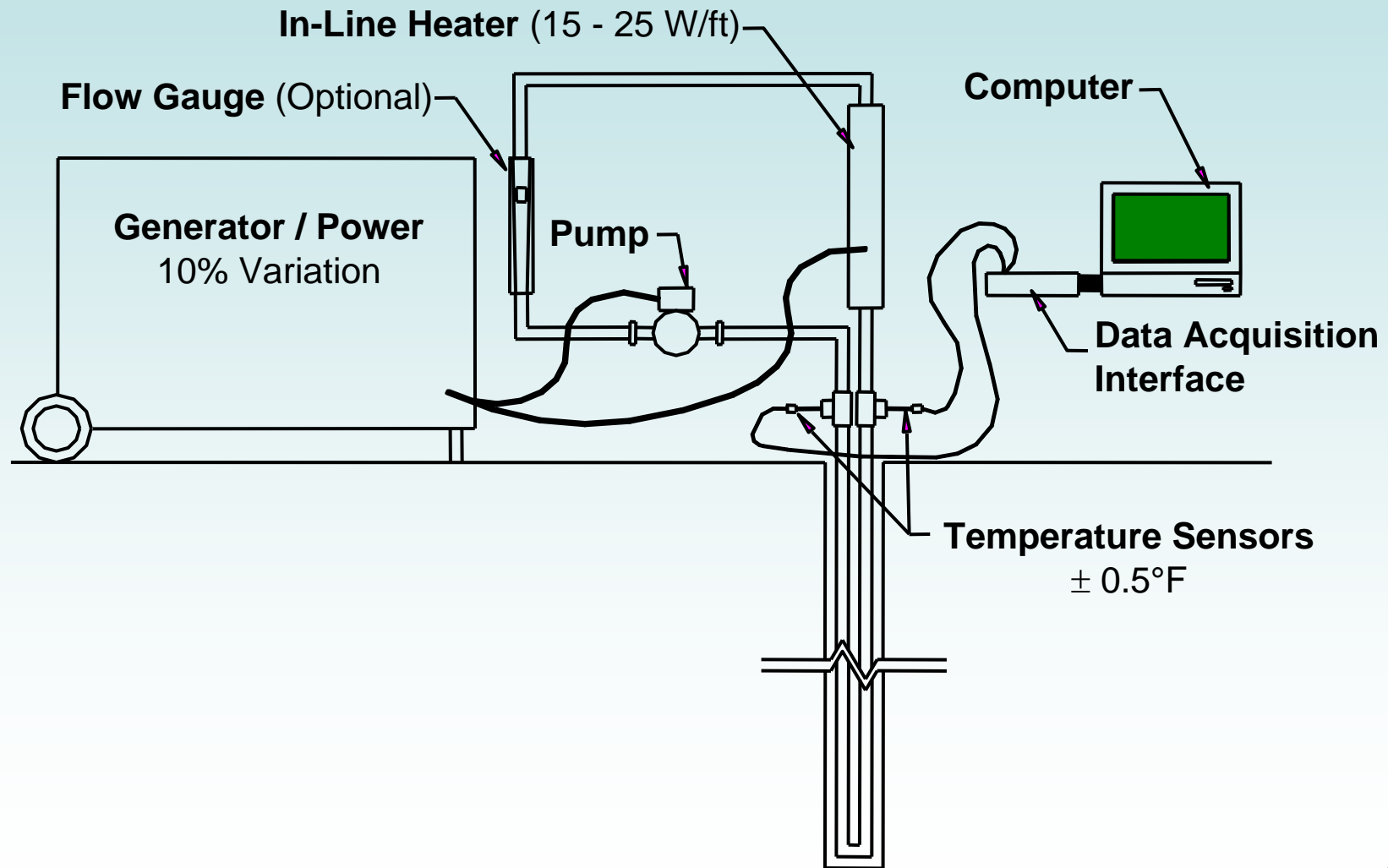
# ASHRAE Recommended Procedures

ASHRAE's 2003 HVAC Applications handbook, page 32.14

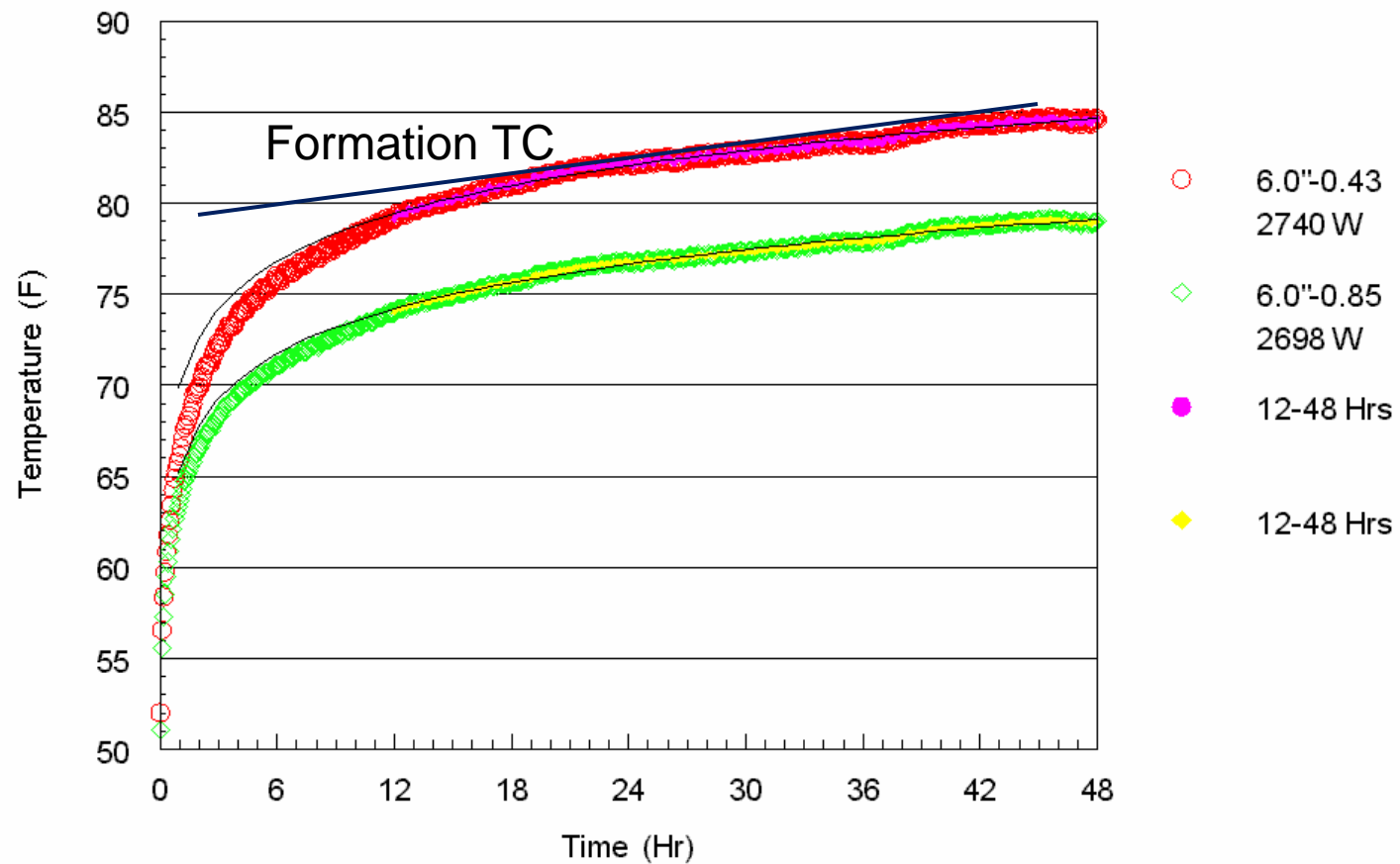
- **Required Test Duration** – 36 to 48 hours.
- **Power**
  - Standard deviation  $\leq 1.5\%$  of average.
  - Maximum power variation  $\leq 10\%$  of average.
  - Heat flux rate between 15 W and 25 W per foot of bore.
- **Undisturbed Soil Temperature** – Shall be determined by recording the minimum loop temp. at startup.
- **Installation Procedures** – Bore dia.  $\leq 6"$ . Bore should be grouted bottom to top.
- **Time Between Installation and Testing** – 5 days if grout TC is low ( $< 0.75$  Btu/hr ft °F), otherwise 3 days.



# Fundamentals



# Results of the Thermal Conductivity Test













# Typical Test Bore

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# Properly Backfilled

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# TC Test – The Black Box

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# Sensitivity of loop length to changes in earth thermal conductivity/diffusivity and deep earth temperature.

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Starting GX Length: 51,077 (ft.)

Parameter	Change	New GX Length	% Change
Thermal Conductivity/Diffusivity <span>Decrease</span>	20%	59,309	~16%
Deep Earth Temperature <span>Increase</span>	20%	65,295	~ 27%
Change Both	20%	75,818	~48%

# What we need to know about the earth before design of the loop.

---

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# GeoTec Supplied Drill Logs

## JUAB SCHOOL DISTRICT Nephi, UT - New Red Cliffs Elementary School Geothermal Soil Analysis

### DRILLING LOG - Test Borehole #1

3/20/2007

Location: S, T, R - if known N1165.17 E943.97, SW corner, 09-13S-1E, SL b&m  
GPS and Elevation: N 39 41.602 W 111 49.990 NAD27 CONUS  
Nephi, UT 5,151

Driller: Bertram Drilling  
State License #: 34 24 Joints on rig  
Rig: Mayhew 1000 15' Length of Kelly  
Drilling Fluid: water based mud  
Loop: Brand, size, length Centennial, 1.25", 810  
Grout: Cetco Geothermal Grout TC - 0.40  
SPUD/TD 3/20/2007 3/21/2007  
Spud with Medium Mill Tooth  
Average ROP - 55-70

NOTE: Time gaps represent connections or unrelated activity

Surface Water - None encountered

Time Start	End	Activity	Duration Minutes	Depth	Comments
3/20/2007					
9:25	9:27	D	2	0-15	A top soil, silt & clay
9:35	9:37	D	2	15-30	L Change to 4-way blade bit brn. Cly. gravel
9:53	10:35	D	42	30-45	L A/A - Changed to rock bit @ 40', COH, U cobble fall in, had to re-drill 6-7 feet V Coarse gravel and valley fill +/- 40-45' I Oquirrh rubble- cleaned up ledges 10:35-10:40
10:41	10:49	D	8	45-60	A Oquirrh rubble
10:56	11:01	D	5	60-75	L A/A - clean up ledges

Added:

- Drilling times
- Bits used
- General comments
- Additional pertinent data needed for absent drillers to bid.

11:18	11:25	D	7	75-90		brn clay w/ bigger gravel/fill clean up ledges
11:41	12:18	D	37	90-105	F	POOH @ 95' - bit jet holes pulgged
					A	12:10 - drill again - coarse gravel and fill w/ brn cly
12:21	12:33	D	12	105-120	N	Coarse gravel & fill w/ brn cly
12:39	12:54	D	15	120-135		A/A
12:59	13:08	D	9	135-150	F	A/A
13:10	13:16	D	6	150-165	O	A/A
13:21	13:26	D	5	165-180	R	A/A - clean up ledges, and fix cable on rig
13:39	13:48	D	9	180-195	M	Coarse gravel & fill w/ brn cly @14:02, had to redrill last 8'
14:07	14:20	D	13	195-210	A	Coarse sand & gravel
14:26	14:31	D	5	210-225	T	A/A (silty)
14:35	14:41	D	6	225-240	I	A/A - w/ brn cly
14:44	14:50	D	6	240-255	O	Coarse gravel/fill w/ brn cly
14:54	14:59	D	5	255-270	N	A/A
15:06	15:15	D	9	270-285		A/A - (worked on rig set-up 15:15-15:25)
15:25	15:48	D	23	285-300		Coarse cemented sand & gravel
						snappy, slower drilling 290-300' (approx. 15:30)
15:54	16:20	D	26	300-315		A/A - snappy, slower drilling
16:28	16:44	D	16	315-330		A/A - snappy, slower drilling
16:52	17:06	D	14	330-345		A/A - snappy, slower drilling
17:23	17:39	D	16	345-360		A/A - snappy, slower drilling

Cond Hole 15  
 Total Drilling Time: 298.00 Minutes  
 4.97 Hours

POOH  
 Drilling 0 - 360'

320' tremie  
 15 bags of grout

0 - 40' - Easy drilling through top soil, silt and clay. Balance of hole coarse sand and gravel w/ clay.

Pressure test loop to 115 psi - no leaks.

30 min to POOH. Bit in marginal cond. RIH with U-bend to 355' and tremie to 320'.

RU grout equip, mix grout.

#### COMMENTS:

Approximately 3500 gallons of water was used for the hole.

The majority of the lithology in test hole was comprised of Oquirrh rubble w/ valley fill and alluvial sand and clay  
 15 sacks of Cetco Geothermal Grout to 320'

**May determine optimum depth.**

# Commercial Applications for GeoExchange





30,000 Btu/SF

**Energy  
Reduction:**

**50%**

**Water Reduction:**

**60%**

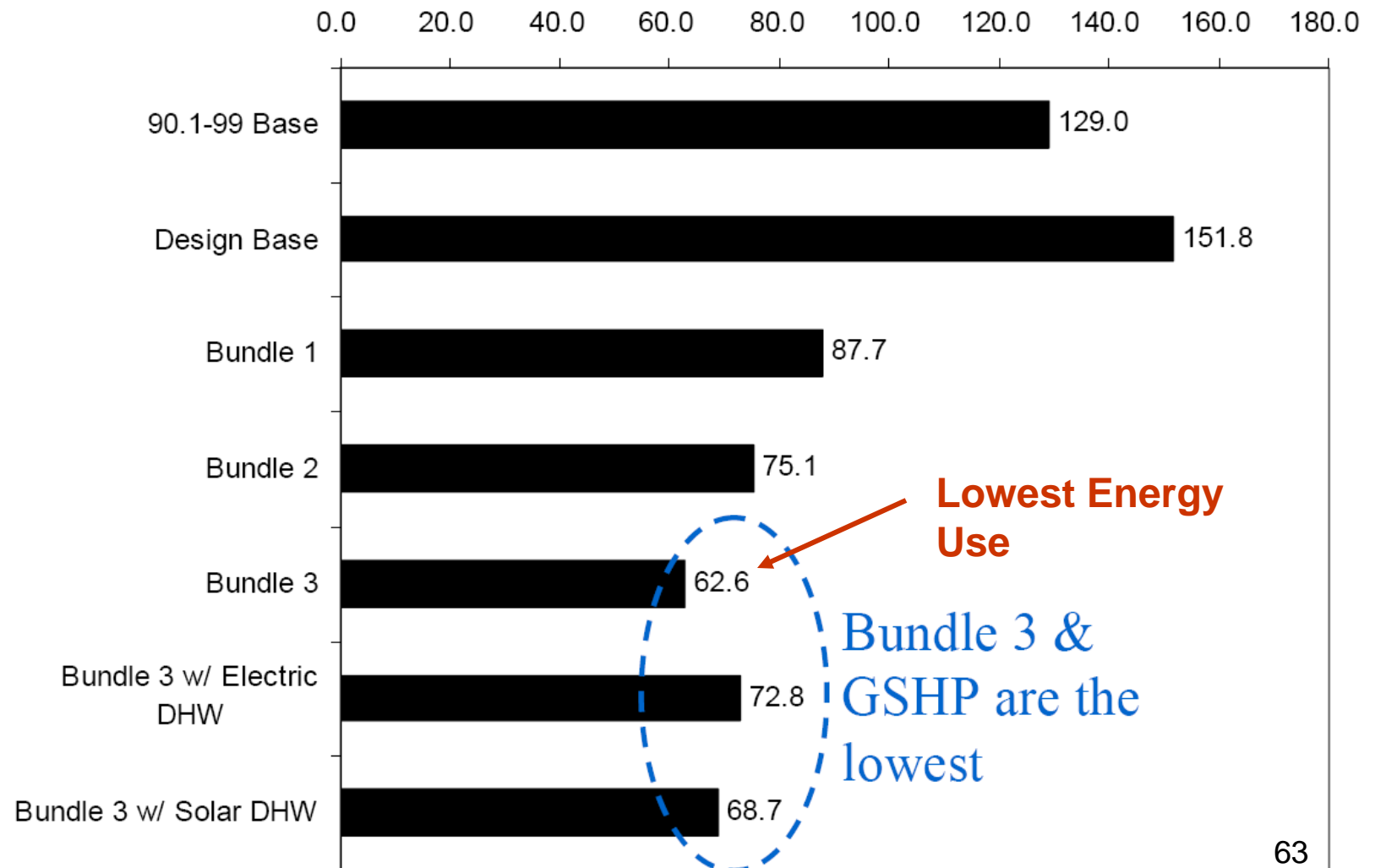
**Greenhouse Gas**

**Reduction:**

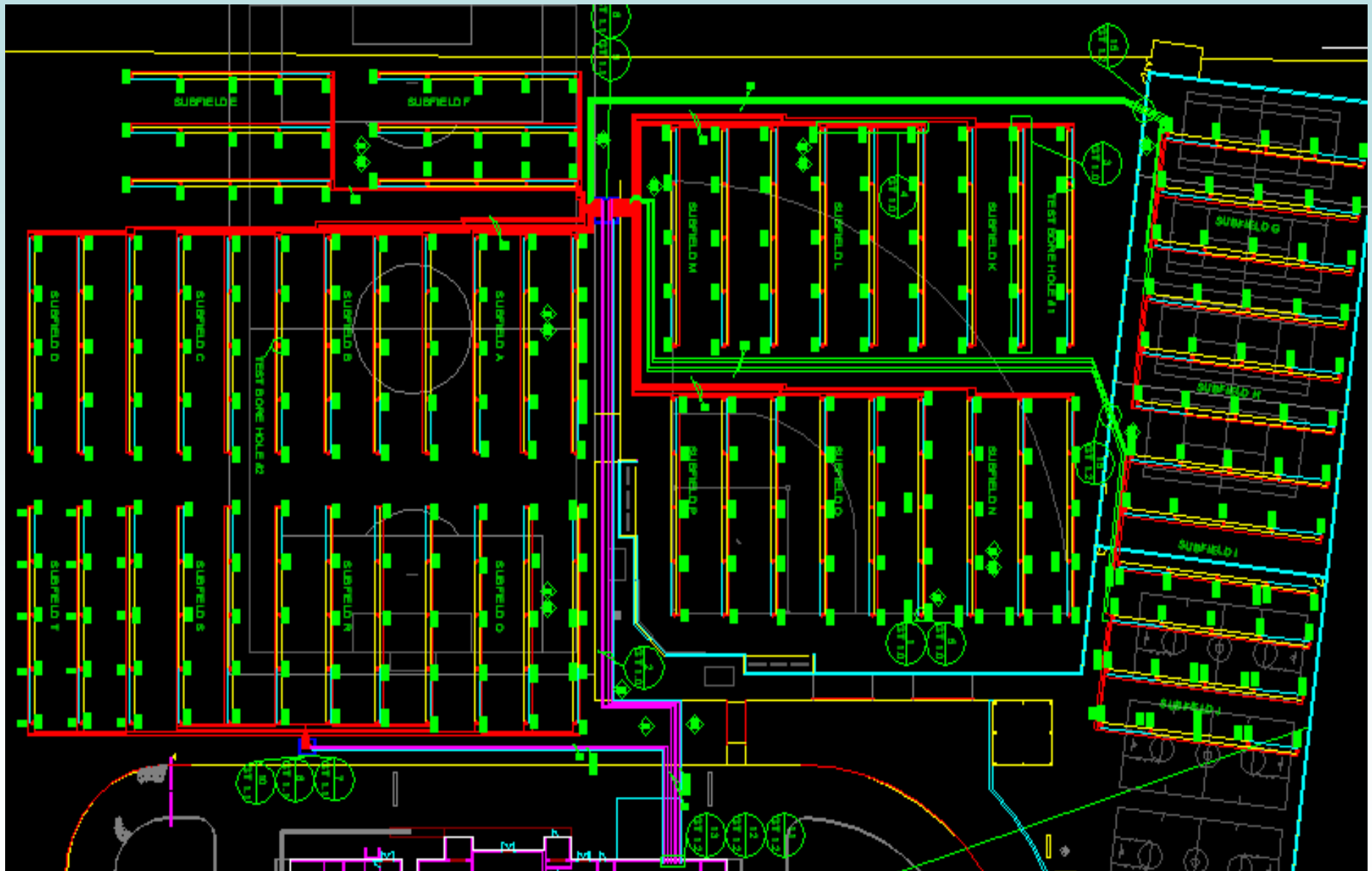
**TBD**

**CCSD**  
**Burkholder Middle School**  
**Energy Performance Solutions**

## Bundle Results – KBtu/SF at *source*



**Borefield: 300 boreholes, 300' deep**















2006/11/02 12:54 pm









69

Burkholder #713-08  
View SE  
D1206-9-31 12/14/06











# Las Vegas Motor Speedway





## BERTRAM DRILLING & LOOPMASTER







# Duchesne High School



# Duchesne High School







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# Questions?

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