Energy Saving Opportunities

Thanks for your interest in reducing your reliance on fossil fuels, cutting greenhouse gas emissions, and saving money on energy by going solar. Whether going solar is right for you now or in the future, you can also do all of these things by increasing energy efficiency and conservation in your home today!

Conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy complement each other to help you become more energy independent – and combining all three is the most cost effective way to maximize your energy and carbon savings. Thermal and electrical conservation and efficiency measures can also help you reduce your electric usage, allowing you to install a smaller solar photovoltaic system and save money.

THERMAL EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

Capstone Community Action provides FREE energy assessments and improvements worth thousands of dollars to income-qualifying residents of Orange County. Additional services and educational programs are available. CapstoneVT.org/Weatherization

Through the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program and Do-It-Yourself Program, Efficiency Vermont provides a $100 discount on all audits and up to $2,000 for energy improvements installed by a participating Home Performance with ENERGY STAR contractor. EfficiencyVermont.com/HomePerformance, 888.921.5990

NeighborWorks H.E.A.T. Squad provides $100 audits and assistance to Windsor County homeowners in prioritizing energy improvements based on needs and budget, and offers financing for energy improvements to all Vermonters. HeatSquad.org, 802.438.2303 x227

COVER Home Repair's Weatherization Program provides home weatherization measures installed by trained volunteers to income-qualifying homeowners. CoverHomeRepair.org/Weatherization 802.296.7241

ELECTRICAL EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

Efficiency Vermont provides technical advice and financial incentives to help you reduce your electric usage. EfficiencyVermont.com, 888.921.5990

Energy Saving Guides

The *Home Electrical Savings and Planning Guide* from Vital Communities and SERG helps you understand and reduce your overall electricity usage, and plan for the right size solar system to meet your current and future energy needs. VitalCommunities.org/Solarize/Thermal.cfm

Download the comprehensive *East Central Vermont Resident's Guide and Resources to Reducing Home Energy Use*, produced by Sustainable Energy Resource Group (SERG). TinyURL.com/ECV-EnergyUseGuide

Home Energy Calculator

See how efficiently your home is heating with the free, online home efficiency calculator. SERG-Info.org/Home-Efficiency-Ccalculator/

Solar Home Energy Audit Discount

Vermonters installing solar electricity qualify for an "Efficiency Adder" worth up to $350 if they complete an energy audit performed by a Building Performance Institute certified or Home Performance with ENERGY STAR participating contractor, State Weatherization service provider, or Vermont Gas auditor (existing homes); or they participate in and complete the Vermont Energy Star Homes or Energy Code Plus program (new construction). For more information, contact your solar installer or the Renewable Energy Resource Center. 877.888.7372, RERC-VT.org, Info@RERC-VT.org

For more information on energy-saving opportunities, contact Sustainable Energy Resource Group: SERG-Info.org, SERG@SERG-Info.org, 802.785.4126