

THE SKINNY

Boulder Area Incentives



Front Range residents and businesses can take advantage of a number of financial incentives available through local and utility, programs that help buy down the cost of energy efficiency and renewable energy investments.

IN BOULDER COUNTY

- ☀ Longs Peak Energy Conservation (LPEC) offers [FREE home weatherization services](#) for income-qualified residents of Boulder, Gilpin and Larimer Counties. For more information or an application, call LPEC at 303-441-1716 or visit their website at: www.co.boulder.co.us/cs/ho/weatherization
- ☀ The CRC s Residential Energy Audit Program (REAP) offers low cost energy audits in partnership with Boulder County, the City of Boulder and Longmont Power & Communications. All Boulder County homeowners are eligible. Visit www.conservationcenter.org/Energy_Audit_Pilot_Program.htm for details or contact 303-441-3278 ext. 24 to sign up.
- ☀ The LPEC also offers [low interest loans](#) for health and safety repairs and energy conservation upgrades for Boulder, Longmont and Boulder County residents that demonstrate financial need. Repayment of the loan is deferred for 15 years or until you sell your home.
- ☀ Boulder County offers rebates to residential and commercial customers for approved water efficiency measures, including high efficiency clothes washers, low flow toilets, and outdoor water saving measures such as irrigation system improvements and soil amendments. Call Boulder Public Works at 303-413-7407 or visit www.bouldersaveswater.net.
- ☀ Businesses in the City of Boulder can receive FREE [Energy Star benchmarking, energy audits and water audits](#) through the Office of Environmental Affairs. Commercial facilities over 5,000 square feet are eligible. Contact Kevin Afflerbaugh at 303-441-4191 for more information or to sign up.

LONGMONT POWER & COMMUNICATIONS CUSTOMERS

Details on LPC programs are available by calling (303) 651-8386 or on line at ci.longmont.co.us/lpc/index.htm

- ☀ Longmont Power & Communication, in collaboration with Platte River Power Authority offers an incentive for business customers to install new or retrofitted energy efficient equipment. Customers can receive rebates of \$500 per kW-reduced up to \$100,000 pre customer per year. Application must be processed by LPC or Platte River prior to beginning work.
- ☀ LPC offers a \$50 rebate to customers who purchase an Energy Star® rated dishwasher between October 1st and December 31st, 2006.
- ☀ LPC commercial and industrial customers are eligible for rebates of up to \$65 per ton of high-efficiency cooling equipment through Platte River Power Authority

XCEL ENERGY CUSTOMERS

Xcel Energy provides incentives to its customers for installing residential solar photovoltaic systems and certain energy efficiency measures. Go to www.XcelEnergy.com for more information

- ☼ Xcel Energy (and other utilities around the state, check with your local provider) provides rebates to residential and business customers installing solar photovoltaic systems. Xcel's Solar Rewards program provides a rebate of \$4.50 per interconnected watt of PV installed plus true net metering for systems 10kw or less. Larger systems are eligible for rebates through a bi-annual bidding process.
- ☼ Xcel Energy customers with central air conditioning can save on summer cooling costs and get a \$25 annual credit on their utility bills by participating in the Savers Switch program. A small remote-controlled switch is installed that cycles the central air conditioner on and off at 15- to 20-minute intervals on hot summer days.
- ☼ Xcel Energy offers rebates of up to \$200 for the purchase of high efficiency evaporative coolers (a.k.a. swamp coolers) with an Industry Standard Rating (ISR) of 2,500 CFM (cubic feet per minute) or higher. In Colorado's climate, evaporative coolers are much more efficient and less costly than central AC. They also add moisture to the air, while air conditioning dries the air.
- ☼ For commercial customers, Xcel offers rebates for motors, lighting, cooling and custom efficiency products. Xcel also provides design assistance and recommissioning diagnosis for commercial customers.

Thinking of installing a PV system? Here's what you need to know.

PV systems installed in Xcel Energy's and Aquilla's service territory are eligible for utility rebates and a Federal tax credit (for systems installed in 2006 or 2007).

A 2,000 watt (2 kW) PV system could reasonably provide about half of the electricity needs of an energy-efficient 2,000 square foot home.

Here's the cost breakdown:

2,000 watt PV system installed	\$18,000
\$4.50/watt rebate:	(\$9,000)
30% (up to \$2,000) tax credit	(\$2,000)
Customer cost	\$7,000
Annual energy bill savings	~\$500

Details: <http://www.xcelenergy.com/solar>

FEDERAL TAX CREDITS

Existing homes are eligible for tax credits for a series of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures. Review the CRC's Skinny sheets on Federal Tax Credits at: www.conservationcenter.org/e_skinny.htm

LEARN MORE

Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency: <http://www.dsireusa.org/>

THE CENTER FOR RESOURCE CONSERVATION

The CRC offers assistance to homeowners and businesses on improving the energy efficiency of their homes and buildings, including **classes and training seminars**, **information resources**, a **contractor referral network** and a **low cost residential energy audit program**.

Visit our website www.conservationcenter.org.