

CLEER



Clean Energy Economy for the Region

Clean Energy Economy News

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Contractor installing new high-efficiency boiler.

Garfield Clean Energy and EnergySmart will present "Efficiency Programs for 2012 in the Region," Wednesday, February 1, 2012, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, at the Third Street Center, in Carbondale, 520 S. Third Street.

Join representatives from all the local utilities and local programs to learn about opportunities and incentives to help build your business and provide efficiency options for your customers. Hosted in partnership with Xcel Energy, SourceGas, Holy Cross Energy, Aspen Electric, Franklin Energy and Glenwood

Springs Electric, this event should be of interest to electricians, contractors, insulation contractors, HVAC companies, lighting specialists, and other efficiency contractors, building analysts, and anyone interested in learning more about local utility and community programs to promote efficiency.

FREE coffee and snacks will be provided. Please register in advance.
<http://www.garfieldcleanenergy.org/register.php>

Alpine Bank Achieves 5-Month Payback on Energy Investment



John Evans at Alpine Bank, Rifle

The folks at Alpine Bank's Central Operations facility are enjoying a remarkable achievement in terms of saving energy: a five-month payback on energy investments that have reduced electrical usage by 7.2 percent.

The investment was on CLEER's Energy Navigator, a web-based tool that allows facility managers to monitor energy usage in their facilities.

Alpine Bank spent \$7,000 installing the Navigator in Alpine's Central Operations ("COPS") building. A grant from CLEER (Clean Energy Economy for the Region) covered \$5,000 of the cost, and since the Navigator was installed in June, changes in building operation have saved an additional \$2,000.

"The best thing about this is that from here forward we keep what we save," said John Evans, Facilities Officer with the bank.

According to Evans, the installation of the Navigator raised employee awareness of energy use and bank officials ran some experiments to see what seemingly small efforts could save energy on a daily basis. Simultaneously they adjusted the thermostat schedules and checked HVAC equipment condition.

Evans found that Central Operations was already managed pretty well from the control side

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 CLEER STAFF &
 CONTRACTOR TEAM

(temperatures and scheduling) thanks to Alpine's Silt-based maintenance department. His team also found that the second floor data room typically used 40 percent of the building's energy during the workweek and around 65 percent on weekends during the cooling season.

"By finessing the buildings awake and sleep times, occupied and unoccupied temperature setpoints and setbacks, we made some gains," Evans noted. One gain came from completely shutting down computers and equipment at day's end. The Navigator also helped Evans and his team ensure that 12 rooftop heating and cooling units are operating as well as they can.

The primary objective, however, was to maintain comfort.

"The main goal was to optimize employee comfort levels," Evans noted. "The second order is to be smarter with energy management and save when we can."

Clean Energy Collective Launches Community Solar Gardens for Xcel Customers

The Clean Energy Collective is launching its Community Solar Gardens project for Xcel Energy customers.

A solar garden is a large, centrally located solar farm that serves customers who own the individual panels. In 2012, Xcel Energy is opening up the new Community Solar Gardens Program to its customers.

For every solar panel an Xcel customer purchases in the garden, Xcel Energy will pay that customer for the power it produces every month. A solar garden provides clean, renewable energy and a hedge against rising energy costs without requiring panels on the roof of a customer's home or business. The Clean Energy Collective (CEC) handles everything, including monthly bill credits and maintenance for the life of the garden.

Customers get to enjoy the benefits of clean solar power at great rates with no worries about service, maintenance, or shading. Space is limited and the CEC is encouraging interested Xcel customers to reserve membership in the program today. Visit www.easycleanenergy.com/xcel to complete a no-obligation reservation form. For more information, call 970-319-3939.



Clean Energy Collective solar garden in Rifle

New Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative Elects Russi as Chair, McKinney as Vice Chair

The Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative (GCEC) held its first official meeting Jan. 11 and elected New Castle Councilman Greg Russi as chair and Glenwood Springs Mayor Pro-tem Leo McKinney as vice chair.

"You've done a good job leading us to where we are, and I look forward to another year of your leadership," Tom Jankovsky, a Garfield County commissioner who is a member of the Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative's board of directors. told Russi.

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Steve Novy
Dave Reed
Ralph Trapani
Marianne Virgili

The Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative uses state legislation that allows governments to cooperate with one another to provide a service or function that is most efficiently provided on a regional basis rather than by single governments. The purpose of GCEC is to make it easier for residents, businesses, and governments throughout Garfield County to become more energy efficient and tap clean energy as a means to creating a stronger, more resilient economy.

The formation of the Collaborative is one of the many results of a Department of Local Affairs grant originally awarded to a partnership of governments in Garfield County in 2008. The grant was overseen by the Garfield Clean Energy Advisory Board, which reported to the Board of County Commissioners. The new Collaborative is a self-standing entity, and will continue to oversee the programs to help residents, businesses, and local governments become more energy efficient and reduce energy costs.

Members of Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative are Parachute, Rifle, New Castle, Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, Garfield County, the Garfield Regional Library District, and the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority. The board consists of a representative appointed by each entity, along with an alternate.

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, alternating between Glenwood Springs and Rifle. Members of the public are welcome to attend; meeting agendas are posted at all town halls.

To date, the Garfield Clean Energy initiative has helped more than 91 businesses and over 289 homes cut energy costs; saved over \$1 million in public building energy expenses; and installed 23 new renewable energy systems on public buildings.

Upcoming Events

"Business Model Case Studies for Contractors" to be Jan. 27 in Grand Junction

Xcel Energy, EnergySmart, the Governor's Energy Office, and North American Technician Excellence are inviting anyone who's interested to attend "Business Model Case Studies for Contractors," Jan. 27 at the Courtyard Marriott in Grand Junction. Attendees will hear firsthand how business leaders have adopted energy efficiency as a key strategy to build their contracting businesses.

Attendees will learn business best practices (local and specific to their businesses) for creating more sales and happy customers; about opportunities to create more revenue and profit by offering additional energy efficiency solutions; and attendees will get an understanding of utility demand side management to help them plan their business for the next two years of Xcel Energy's energy efficiency programs

The event will include a keynote presentation by Jeff Rice, Energy Efficiency Manager for the City of Aspen.

To register or to see the agenda, please visit <http://www.eebco.org/whatisdsm>.

USDA Renewable Energy for America Program (REAP) Presentations Set for Jan. 27 and Feb. 7 in Montrose, Hotchkiss

The USDA will make two presentations on its Renewable Energy for America Program (REAP), Jan. 27 and Feb. 7.

The Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to complete a variety of projects. Offering both loan guarantees and grants, the REAP program helps eligible applicants install renewable energy systems such as solar panels or anaerobic digesters, make energy efficiency improvements such as installing irrigation pumps or replacing ventilation systems, and conduct energy audits and feasibility studies.

The Jan. 27 presentation will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Delta-Montrose Electric Association, 11925 6300 Road, Montrose. The Feb. 7 presentation will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hotchkiss Senior Center, 276 E. Main St., Hotchkiss. For more information, see <http://www.dmea.com/images/stories/PDF/USDA-REAP-SeminarFlyer.pdf>.

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Join representatives from all the local utilities and local programs to learn about opportunities and incentives to help build your business and provide efficiency options for your customers. Hosted in partnership with Xcel Energy, SourceGas, Holy Cross Energy, Aspen Electric, Franklin Energy and Glenwood Springs Electric, this event should be of interest to electricians, contractors, insulation contractors, HVAC companies, lighting specialists, and other efficiency contractors, building analysts, and anyone interested in learning more about local utility and community programs to promote efficiency.

Free coffee and snacks will be provided. Please register in advance at <http://www.garfieldcleanenergy.org/register.php>.

Xcel's Home Energy Audit and Home Performance Training Feb. 16 in Glenwood

Attention building auditors and analysts and other contractors who want to participate in Xcel Energy's Home Energy Audit and Home Performance Programs. Garfield Clean Energy/CLEER is partnering with Xcel to bring their REQUIRED training to Glenwood Springs for local auditors and analysts.

"Xcel's Home Energy Audit and Home Performance Training" will be Thursday, Feb. 16, 2012 [full day] in Glenwood Springs. Additional details regarding time and location are being developed.

Prerequisites for attending the training: Please carefully follow all of the steps below.

- Watch the online presentation at <http://www.brainshark.com/xcel/2012HEA-HP>.
 - Each person in your company who wants to attend training needs to view the presentation and RSVP him/herself.
 - Each person needs to be RESNET, BPI and/or NATE certified in order to attend.
- Evaluate whether the new audit and/or HPWES program(s) fit your business model.
- Register for class (RSVP) through the online presentation.
- Register for your Xcel Energy contractor ID if you don't already have it.
 1. Go to <http://hvaceducation.net/xcel-co/registration/>.
 2. Select the second option, "New Trade Partner."
 3. Fill out each screen, clicking on "NEXT" at the bottom of each, until it says "Congratulations!"
- Complete the application (an attachment in the online presentation).
- Email it as an attachment to hpcerts@xcelenergy.com.
- Scan your NATE and BPI certifications and send them to hpcerts@xcelenergy.com.

Free Energy Code Workshop Set for Feb. 24 in Carbondale

Code Officials, contractors, and design professionals are invited to a free energy-code workshop. Colorado Code Consulting will present "2009 IECC: Real World Applications" on Feb. 24 at Carbondale town hall. The workshop will run 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The workshop will bring field inspection to the classroom through pictures and examples of common installations seen in the field while performing energy-code compliance inspections and plan reviews. This is an interactive class with participants sharing their experiences and discussing different levels of compliance. This class does not include mechanical requirements-that is its own class. Lunch will be provided at the workshop.

Carbondale town hall is located at 511 Colorado Ave. Carbondale. The workshop is cosponsored by the Town of Carbondale, CLEER, CORE, the Governor's Energy Office, and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. To register, please visit www.iccsafe.org/colorado. You will be required to create a free ICC user name and password to sign up for classes but ICC membership is not required. If you have questions, please contact Shaunna Mazingo, Colorado Code Consulting, LLC, 303-598-3465 or smozingo@coloradocode.net.

Rocky Mountain Contractor Exchange 2012 Set for Feb. 21 and 22 in Denver

The Electric & Gas Industries Association (EGIA) will be hosting the 2012 Rocky Mountain Contractor Exchange Feb. 21 and 22 in Denver at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 W. 6th Street Golden, 80401. The two-day conference will offer a variety of events and sessions on issues that affect contractors, including incentives offered by municipalities and utilities, the state of the market, marketing strategies, sales, and other topics.

To see the full agenda, please click

<http://www.egia.org/academy/RockyMountain/2012/agenda.html>. To register for the event, please click

[https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e597w2mq2075704c&oseq=.](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e597w2mq2075704c&oseq=)

If you have registration questions, contact EGIA Event Registration Support at 1-866-367-3442, ext. 385, or registrations@egia.org.

Donate to Keep Advancing the Clean Energy Economy

As a nonprofit organization, CLEER is working hard to advance the clean energy economy. Your contributions will help CLEER stay flexible, nimble, and ready to create even more clean energy results in the coming year. Click [here](#) to donate.

Submit Your News and Events to Clean Energy Economy News

Clean Energy Economy News (CEEN) accepts news, events, and training information for monthly publication. Material must be appropriate (e.g., clean energy, efficiency, renewables, sustainability-related, etc.) for CEEN. Please submit stories and notices to CEEN editor [Cam Burns](#) (970-704-9200).

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