

SW CERT Update 12-21-2015

Contents

LEDs in a gas station canopy can save about 75% of the energy - for some stations.	1
Youth Energy Summit Teams (YES!) http://www.youthenergysummit.org/about-2/about/	2
Tips to help you stay warm and save money this winter	2
Video: Improving Your Home’s Performance:	3
Benchmarking helps multifamily buildings achieve significant energy and water savings	3
Saving money with outdoor LED lighting: Interview with Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative.....	3
Elk River Clinic saving \$40,000 a year with energy efficiency TLC	3
Current Campaigns from CERTs	3
Milk the Savings: Dairy Energy Efficiency Program.....	4
LED Canopy Lighting: Light Up Your Station & Save	4
Holiday light recycling program returns to Minnesota communities.....	4
How will a community solar subscription impact your electricity bill?	4

LEDs in a gas station canopy can save about 75% of the energy - for some stations.

A lot of filling station owners like them because they shine a crisp white, bright light that attracts customers to the station.

They last over a decade, which means you wouldn't need to think about storing bulbs and getting up on a ladder to maintain them.

The project can pay for itself in 3 to 4 years, but with electric utility rebates, this can be shortened to about 18 months in some areas.

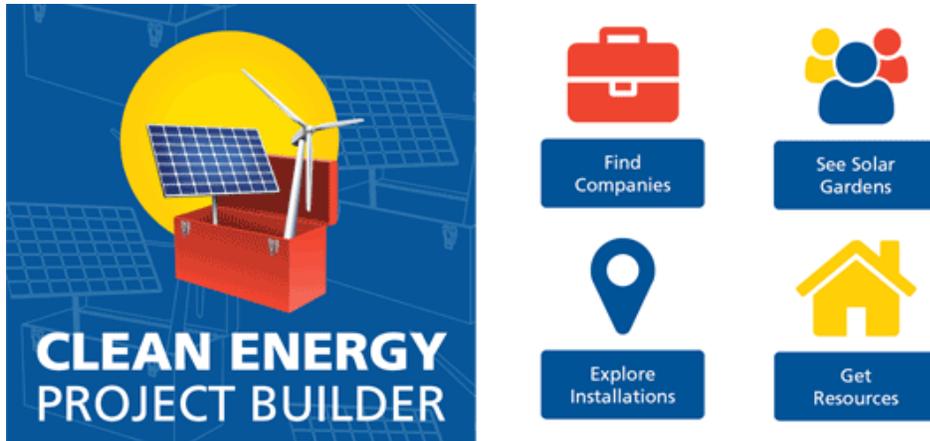
If you are interested in LED for the Canopy, we worked with electric utilities and a lighting consultant to identify what makes a product high quality and then we went out and found which of all the hundreds of products available meet these qualifications.

We have a list of a dozen high quality products that you could share with your electrician. You can access the list on the CERT website.

Your electrician will be able to use the information we've compiled to help guide your project. My teammate Alexis is also happy to chat with your electrician – *just let me know I will get you in touch with her*. We have what kind of existing lighting would get replaced by each of the quality products on our list.

We also know many of the utility rebates available for these projects. Some will cover anywhere between 10 and 40% of the project costs, which can bring the payback down to less than 2 years.

Looking for solar installers or community solar garden subscriptions? Community Solar Gardens are centrally-located solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that provide electricity to participating subscribers. Could it work for you? Are you interested in going solar but unable to do so on your own? Perhaps you live in an apartment, have a shaded roof at home, or don't have space at your organization. Where do you want to start?



The [Clean Energy Project Builder](#) website that CERTs manages has been fully redesigned! [Read a blog post](#) about new features or click below:

- [Solar and Wind Companies](#) near you
- [Community Solar Gardens](#) in Minnesota
- [Installed Projects](#) in your region
- [Resources](#) for getting your project moving

Youth Energy Summit Teams (YES!) <http://www.youthenergysummit.org/about-2/about/>

[Sleepy Eye \(Public and St. Mary's\)](#) [See what they accomplished last year](#)

[Springfield](#) [See what they accomplished last year](#)

[Westbrook-Walnut Grove](#) [See what they accomplished last year](#)

Tips to help you stay warm and save money this winter



We're pretty sure that winter is here, even if it's been a bit hesitant. As the temperature drops and we turn up the heat, there are many things we can do to keep the warm air in and our heating bills down during winter months.

[Get winter tips >>](#)

Video: **Improving Your Home's Performance:**

A new 30-minute program on Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) captures the importance of having an advanced home energy assessment and the big dividends to be earned from prescribed home energy efficiency improvements. [Watch the video >>](#)

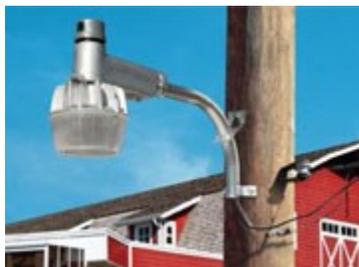
Benchmarking helps multifamily buildings achieve significant energy and water savings



Results from EnergyScoreCards Minnesota, a two-year controlled experiment that included over 550 buildings, found that energy and water benchmarking work as an energy efficiency measure for multifamily buildings in Minnesota.

[See report highlights >>](#)

Saving money with outdoor LED lighting: Interview with Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative



Do you have outdoor yard lighting on your property? Switching to LEDs might help you reduce your electric bill. We spoke with Brian Jeremiason with Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative to learn about a program they offer members. [More about LED yard lights >>](#)

Elk River Clinic saving \$40,000 a year with energy efficiency TLC



Allina Health's Elk River Clinic offers personalized care services for physical and mental wellness. The 30,000 sqft, three-story building recently received some tender loving care of its own with major upgrades for energy efficiency. [Read the interview >>](#)

Current Campaigns from CERTs

Milk the Savings: Dairy Energy Efficiency Program

CERTs can answer questions about energy efficiency for dairy barns and guide you through funding options available for energy efficiency upgrades. We can help you consider renewable energy options, too. We set up a simple five-step process to get it all done! [Learn more >>](#)



LED Canopy Lighting: Light Up Your Station & Save

The top four reasons to upgrade your canopy to LED lighting are to reduce your canopy energy costs up to 75%, create a brighter and more attractive station, reduce your maintenance costs, and strengthen your business.

CERTs can help you access high-quality and competitively-priced canopy lighting products and more. [Learn more >>](#)



Holiday light recycling program returns to Minnesota communities

RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAYS



There are hundreds of locations across the state accepting your old, broken holiday lights. Over 840,000 pounds of holiday lights have been recycled since the program's start. Also, the average home can save \$10 to \$250 with LED holiday lighting. [Find drop-off locations](#)

[>>](#)

Locations in Redwood, and Renville, may not be on the map and include:

In Redwood Falls: City of Redwood Falls Office Building, Redwood County Government Center, Teersteg's Market, Running's, Walmart;
Manard's Food Center – Renville, Beckler's Hardware Hank – Bird Island, Danube U&pholstery – Danube, Farm Mercantile – Fairfax, Hill's Unique Gift shop – Hector, K & SW Millwrights – Buffalo Lake, City of Morton – city office, City of Sacred heart – city office, Olivia Hardware – Olivia, and the Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility in Olivia

How will a community solar subscription impact your electricity bill?



There has been a lot of interest in Community Solar Gardens, especially in Xcel Energy's service territory. But lots of people wonder how the financials will work out, and rightly so! New decision-making tools from CERTs are just the answer. [Go crunch some numbers >>](#)