

# Residential Energy Disclosure Made Easy

In February 2019, the City of Minneapolis adopted several policies that will ensure that Minneapolis residents have access to energy efficiency information of the homes they choose to buy and lease. Energy literacy is the first step, and armed with data, residents can choose to take action to improve the efficiency of their dwellings. The City Minneapolis and our energy utilities, CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy, offer a suite of assistance options to make energy disclosure simple as well as help property owners improve their property's energy performance.

## Data Collection and Reporting Resources:

**Ask the Helpline.** City staff are available to help owners and managers of large multifamily buildings benchmark their properties using the free tool, ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager. Have a question about benchmarking? Call 612-673-3091 or email [mplsenergystar@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:mplsenergystar@minneapolismn.gov).

**Data Jams.** Within a 4-hour 'data jam' work session, benchmark your building(s) with the help of volunteer professionals. By the end of a session, your properties will be set up in ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and your gas and electric utility data will automatically upload into your account. You will be compliance-ready. Announcements on upcoming events are available on the benchmarking website: [www.minneapolisenergybenchmarking.org](http://www.minneapolisenergybenchmarking.org)

**Utility Data Aggregation and Upload Tools.** Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy offer services that aggregate and automatically feed energy use data into your ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager account, saving time and avoiding potential errors of manual entry. [www.xcelenergy.com/programs\\_and\\_rebates/business\\_programs\\_and\\_rebates/new\\_construction\\_and\\_whole\\_building/energy\\_benchmarking](http://www.xcelenergy.com/programs_and_rebates/business_programs_and_rebates/new_construction_and_whole_building/energy_benchmarking) and [energytracker.centerpointenergy.com/](http://energytracker.centerpointenergy.com/)

**Time-of-Lease Disclosure Tools.** Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy have agreed to work with the City in creating tools to calculate and download this information for easy compliance.

**Truth in Sale of Housing (TISH) Sessions.** The City will host information sessions for evaluators that will include information on how to disclose energy efficiency information in TISH inspections. Sessions will also be provided for realtors that cover the energy report and resources available for homebuyers and sellers.



## Energy Efficiency Programs and Services:

**Multifamily Building Efficiency Program.** This free, utility-funded program provides multifamily customers (5+ units) with an energy audit to identify energy-saving opportunities, directly install several energy-saving measures for immediate savings, and offer financial incentives for buildings that meet energy saving targets – including covering up to 80% of the costs for energy upgrades in qualifying low-income housing. [www.multifamilyenergysolutions.com](http://www.multifamilyenergysolutions.com)

**Free Home Energy Squad visits.** The City offers qualifying residents no-cost Home Energy Squad visits to improve residential (1-4 units) energy efficiency. At the visit, energy experts identify opportunities to save energy and installing some energy-efficient equipment on the spot. [www.mncee.org/home-energy-squad/minneapolis/](http://www.mncee.org/home-energy-squad/minneapolis/)

**Energy Advisor Service.** If you need assistance interpreting an energy report, contact an Energy Advisor at 612-244-2484 or [energyadvisor@mncee.org](mailto:energyadvisor@mncee.org) for help. [www.mncee.org/services/residential-programs/energy-advisor-service/](http://www.mncee.org/services/residential-programs/energy-advisor-service/)

## Funding and Financing:

**Green Energy Efficiency Cost Share Program.** The City offers a funding match of 20-30% up to \$50,000 (not to be repaid) for multifamily residential buildings with four units or more that increase energy efficiency. [www.minneapolismn.gov/environment/green/](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/environment/green/)

**Utility Prescriptive Rebates.** CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy have a number of rebates to reduce the cost of energy efficiency improvements. Check their websites to see if a utility rebate is available before purchasing new equipment. [www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/business/save-energy-money/efficiency-programs-rebates?sa=mn](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/business/save-energy-money/efficiency-programs-rebates?sa=mn) and [www.xcelenergy.com/programs\\_and\\_rebates](http://www.xcelenergy.com/programs_and_rebates)

**Trillion BTU program.** Administered by the Saint Paul Port Authority, the program offers up to 100% financing of a project's cost with savings exceeding the payment obligation. [www.sppa.com/energy-financing/trillion-btu](http://www.sppa.com/energy-financing/trillion-btu)

**0% Interest Loans.** The City of Minneapolis offers a 0% loan to help residents improve the efficiency of their homes through insulation and/or air sealing. To qualify, the borrower must have received a Home Energy Squad visit within the last 3 years and live in a 1-4 unit dwelling. [www.mncee.org/find-financing-incentives/minneapolis-0-loan/](http://www.mncee.org/find-financing-incentives/minneapolis-0-loan/)

