



Energy Efficiency & Weatherization Resources

General & Commercial Resources

- [Energy Efficiency Resources](#) - List of websites (doc)
- [Energy Solutions for all Buildings](#) - US Department of Energy
- [Michigan's Energy Office / Bureau of Energy Systems](#) - State resources and training on the new Residential and Commercial Energy Codes.
- Rebates & Tax Incentives - see below

Home Energy Efficiency

Below are resources to help: improve your home's energy efficiency; identify tax incentives to consider; and how to get an energy audit of your home; or identify programs for those needing low income assistance. Check the Michigan Energy Office's website www.michigan.gov/energyoffice for additional resources.

[Thermostat Recycling](#)

[Rebates & Incentives](#)

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Thermostat Recycling

The most effective and easiest thing to do to save money is to replace an old thermostat with a new programmable one. The new thermostats can be set to automatically lower the heat in the home at night and when you're at work yet allow you to easily over ride it if you're home unexpectedly. The older thermostats typically contain mercury. When removing the thermostat, do not remove the glass of mercury from inside. For recycling information contact Michigan Energy Options at:

<http://michiganenergyoptions.org/programs/thermostatrecycling>

Rebates & Incentives

Federal Tax Credits

The federal tax credits originally were only available for 2009. The good news is the residential energy efficiency credits were extended through December 31, 2010.

<http://energytaxincentives.org/consumers/> Other credits for vehicles, solar, wind, building, etc. end between 2009 and 2016. Be certain to check the Tax Incentives Web site and do your own research on what you qualify for before making any decisions. This is a potential \$1500 savings on top of the utility rebates.

www.energysavers.gov/financial/index.cfm
<http://aceee.org/energy/national/taxkey.htm>

Utility Rebates

The Michigan MPSC required all regulated utilities to develop energy optimization plans to reduce operation costs and customer charges. This should also reduce the potential for needing to construct new power plants. Many of the utilities have established residential and commercial energy rebate programs. The programs vary on whether rebates are offered, what they cover and how much the rebate is. Some include water efficiency shower heads and faucets, some focus on furnaces and insulation. These programs currently do not expire. The common rebate programs are below.

Consumers	www.consumersenergy.com/eeprograms/
Consumers Energy Tips	www.consumersenergy.com/welcome.htm
Consumers Energy –Products	www.consumersenergy.com/products
	Generators, Carbon Monoxide monitors, tree service, etc.
DTE/Mich Con	www.yourenergysavings.com
Lansing Board of Water & Light	www.lbwl.com/htes.asp
Other Municipal Utilities	www.michigan-energy.org
State Rebates for Rural Areas:	
Appliances, Furnaces (propane & oil) & hot water heaters	www.MIrebates.com

View this document and access links at:

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Energy Audits & Tips

Home and business energy audits help identify ways to reduce energy costs. Links below list self-audits and others that home and business owners can do themselves.

Self-Audits

DTE <http://my.dteenergy.com/home/myEnergyAnalyzer.html>

DTE www.dteenergy.com/residentialCustomers/saveEnergy/myEnergyAnalyzer.html

Energy Guide www.energyguide.com/audit/haintro.asp

Energy Star

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_index

Home energy saver (hes) (DOE) <http://hes.lbl.gov>

US DOE www.energy.gov/yourhome.htm

Professional Audits

Home & Business - Michigan Energy Options, an energy education center, provides information on trained energy specialists that will review your home or business from the basement to the attic, and provide a *personalized* report of energy saving recommendations regarding: insulation levels; windows and doors; heating and cooling systems; lighting and appliances; and other needed improvements. More information is available at: www.michiganenergyoptions.org under "Programs".

Businesses, non-profit, industrial - RETAP (Retired Engineers Technical Assistance Program) www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3585_4848---,00.html provides audits for energy and waste reduction that are free and confidential.

Home Performance with Energy Star

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_hpwes

This addresses existing homes: "These specially-trained contractors evaluate your home using state-of-the-art equipment and recommend comprehensive improvements that will yield the best results." Consumers Energy will be launching their new pilot program with this effort soon.

Energy Tips

Consumer's Tips www.consumersenergy.com/apps/pdf/more-100-ways-save-on-bill12-06.pdf

Energy Savers www.energysavers.gov/

This site has overall good info. On the lower right side of the home page there is an option to conduct your own home energy audit.

Energy Star www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=heat_cool.pr_winter

Energy Star provides information on how to improve your home's energy efficiency, build an energy efficient home and on energy efficient products.

Energy Saver Tips www.eere.energy.gov/consumer

www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/pdfs/energy_savers.pdf

Miscellaneous Resources

CFL -Bright Idea www.michigan.gov/deq2initiatives

Information on compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) is available with details and calculators on environmental impacts, energy savings.

CFL Know How www.cflknowhow.org

Michigan GREEN consumer friendly website.

Elements of an Energy-Efficient House www.nrel.gov/docs/fy00osti/27835.pdf

This 8 page document has good tips to consider and a resource list at the end.

Games:

- Dr. E's Energy Lab www.eere.energy.gov/kids
- "Energy Hog" www.energyhog.org

Michigan's Bureau of Energy Systems

www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-25676_25692---,00.html

Renewable Energy

Local Energy Offices - Efficiency and Renewable Energy Information

Michigan Energy Centers

Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association, Lansing area www.grea.org
Northern Options, Marquette www.northernoptions.org
Recycle Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor www.environmentalhouse.org/
Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center, Oxford www.uheac.org/
Urban Options, East Lansing www.urbanoptions.org
WARM Training Center, Detroit www.warmtraining.org/

Note: federal renewable energy tax incentives are available beginning in 2009.
See Tax Incentives above.

Building a New Home

ENERGY STAR www.energystar.gov click on new homes
Consider building an ENERGY STAR energy efficient home to save money every year.
Qualified homes are independently verified to be at least 30% more energy efficient.

'Green' built homes

"Green Building Guidelines" for homes is available at: www.greenbuiltmichigan.org
For information on issues for building a green home, also read the design document:
www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-ess-p2-green-design.doc This is on the MDEQ's
Green Building and Deconstruction website: www.michigan.gov/deqconstruction

'LEED' Green Homes

The US Green Building Council has a program called LEED for "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design". This program certifies green buildings of all kinds from schools, neighborhoods, hospitals to homes. www.greenhomeguide.org

Utilities

Consumers is developing an incentive program for energy efficient new homes.
DTE has a program for "Home Construction":
www.dteenergy.com/residentialCustomers/saveEnergy/rebates/resConstructionIncentives.html
Check with your local utility company.

Low Income Assistance

Weatherization Contacts:

State Department of Human Services Weatherization Program P.O. Box 30037 235 S. Grand Ave., Ste. 1314, Grand Tower Bldg. Lansing, MI 48909 phone: (517) 373-8896	Michigan Community Action Agency Association Office Park West 516 S. Creyts Road, Suite A Lansing, MI 48917 phone: (517) 321-7500 e-mail: contact@mcaaa.org web site: www.mcaaa.org/
Weatherization Assistance Program - FAQ Local Weatherization Contacts	Consumers Energy low income assistance
State Emergency Relief help with energy shut off concerns	Energy Assistance Programs listed by County
Be Winterwise Program	Local contacts -The Weatherization Assistance Program now covers up to \$6,500 per unit energy improvements. (Before the stimulus/ARRA, the cap was \$1,200)

Municipal & Institutional Assistance

For local governments and institutions considering investing in energy efficiency, the Department of Energy (DOE) provides a reference, [Financing Energy Efficiency in Buildings](#) that reviews financing and contracting options. This might be a useful review by commercial operations as well.

Under the "Rebuild Michigan" program, the State's Energy Office provides several resources, including grants, to local governmental units, schools, universities, and public housing to help the buildings become energy efficient and save local tax dollars. More information is available at www.michigan.gov/energyoffice Select the "Rebuild Michigan" icon in the center of the page or contact:

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