CALCULATE SAVINGS

Assess Your Savings Potential

You can't see energy, so it can be difficult to visualize the potential savings lying undiscovered in your facility. However, you can see and easily understand those utility bills you receive each month. Visualize your energy bill being lower by 25 to 30 percent, or even more. Visualize your potential energy savings as financial resources that could go to worthwhile programs instead of to your local utility.

Financial Analysis

It always pays to do your homework before investing in energy-efficient equipment such as ENERGY STAR qualified products. What products and equipment really work? How much will it cost to install? Where do you find the money? How quickly will you recover your investment? There are many resources to help you get the answers that will work for your congregation.

Saving with ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR qualified products are equal to or better than standard products of the same type, however they use less energy. Since they use less energy, ENERGY STAR qualified products save you money on your utility bills while helping to protect the environment by causing fewer harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

Indirect Benefits

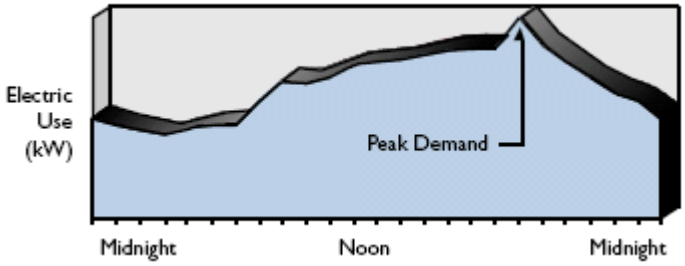
When you invest in energy efficiency, the benefits go far beyond saving energy and money, and protecting the environment by helping prevent pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

CALCULATE: ASSESS YOUR SAVINGS POTENTIAL!

You can't see energy, so it can be difficult to visualize the potential savings lying undiscovered in your facility. However, you can see and easily understand those utility bills you receive each month. Visualize your energy bill being lower by 25 to 30 percent, or even more. Visualize your potential energy savings as financial resources that could go to worthwhile programs instead of to your local utility.

Clearly managing energy use makes good financial sense as well as helping the environment, but remember, "you can't manage what you can't measure." Your facility's energy use for lighting, heating, cooling, office equipment and other systems can be easily identified, measured and analyzed. The result is a new and interesting look at your facility – where simple identification and measurement techniques provide the first steps toward eliminating waste and saving money. You can begin the process today by pulling out your utility bill file and looking at what you are paying each month and each year for energy with the knowledge that you can reduce energy waste and reclaim much of the money you are paying out for energy.

ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager provides a platform to track energy and water use trends as compared with the costs of these resources. It helps you streamline your portfolio's energy and water data, and track key consumption, performance, and cost information portfolio-wide.



Other resources to identify how your energy use compares to that of similar type facilities.

ENERGY STAR's Energy-Intensive Calculator

Lawrence Berkley National Laboratories' ARCH: A Building Energy Reference Tool **(EXIT>)**

DOE's Building Technologies Program's Building Energy Software Tools Directory **(EXIT>)**

Assess your facility and discover energy-efficient upgrade opportunities.

DOE's Energy-Efficiency Products: Energy Cost Calculators **(EXIT>)**

Alliant Energy's Energy Efficiency Calculators **(EXIT>)**

ENERGYguide's Online Analysis Tools **(EXIT>)**

Did You Know?

Your peak electricity use usually occurs during a time of day when rates are at their highest. If you are charged a "demand rate" on your electric bill, you pay a fee based on your peak amount of electricity consumption. Lowering your peak rate of usage can save big!

CALCULATE: FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Turning Energy Into Savings

It always pays to do your homework before investing in energy-efficient equipment such as ENERGY STAR qualified products. What products and equipment really work? How much will it cost to install? Where do you find the money? How quickly will you recover your investment? There are many resources to help you get the answers that will work for your congregation.

Did You Know?

Bill comparison provides you with a technique to quantify your savings after implementation of energy-efficient measures.

Analysis - Tools and Resources

ENERGY STAR's Resources: Finance, Products & Services

NativeEnergy's Carbon Footprint Calculator

Incentives, Rebates and Other Resources

(EXIT>)

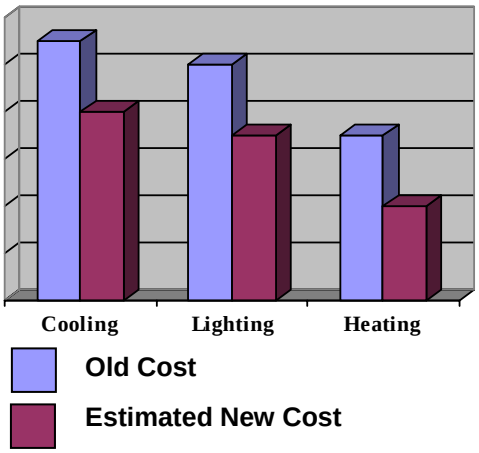
National Association of State Energy Officials' "State and Territory Energy Offices" Web page

Alliance to Save Energy's Financing Energy Efficiency

Local Government Commission's Funding Opportunities

DSIRE Database for State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency

Another consideration in funding energy-efficiency upgrades is the price of the equipment. Why pay more than you must for efficient products and equipment? Perhaps your congregational organization or association would sponsor a group purchase in which you and other facilities pool your buying power for volume discounts. Read more about this strategy to stretch your investment capital in ENERGY STAR's Group Purchasing Fact Sheet **(PDF)**



The two most common financial evaluation tools are simple payback and internal rate of return (IRR).

- Simple Payback: The number of years it takes to recover the cost of the upgrade from the savings.
- Internal Rate of Return: Compares the financial results of an upgrade against other investments.

Learn more about financial indicators in ENERGY STAR's Buildings Upgrade Manual's Financing Section. **(PDF)**

CALCULATE: SAVING WITH ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR qualified products are equal to or better than standard products of the same type, but the good news is they use less energy! And since they use less energy, ENERGY STAR qualified products save you money on your utility bills while helping to protect the environment by causing fewer harmful greenhouse gas emissions. The following link provides access to calculators of various types of ENERGY STAR qualified products. These calculators estimate the annual dollar and energy savings you can expect by installing an ENERGY STAR qualified version.

ENERGY STAR Savings Calculators

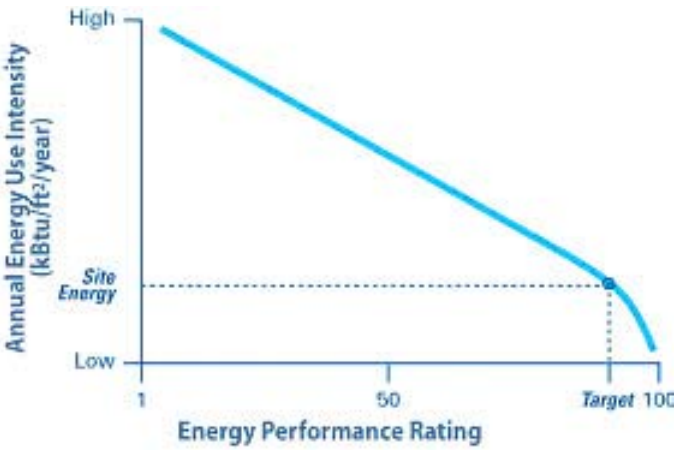
CALCULATE: INDIRECT BENEFITS

Saving More Than You Know

When you invest in energy efficiency, the benefits go far beyond saving energy and money, and protecting the environment by helping prevent pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

- **Potential to Improve Productivity**: Enhanced comfort and improved lighting conditions may contribute to improvements in productivity.
- **Reduced Operations and Maintenance Costs**: Many energy-efficient technologies significantly decrease your operations and maintenance requirements, saving not only money but also time.
- **Increased Appearance and Comfort:** Building upgrades can help improve your facility's look, increase its comfort, and help staff, members and visitors enjoy their time spent there.

Make a Good Building Even Better!



- **Enhanced Public Image:** Your contribution to environmental protection very positively differentiates your congregation from others.