

Vermont Climate Pledge Coalition Resource Guide

Resource Guide to Energy Efficiency,
Renewable Energy and
Transportation Solutions for
Vermont Businesses, Nonprofits,
Schools, Hospitals and Other
Organizations

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Introduction

The **Vermont Climate Pledge Coalition (VCPC)** is designed to help Vermont businesses, non-profits, academic institutions, farms, membership organizations and networks, utilities, and municipalities (municipalities, visit <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/vtclimateactioncommunities> for the **municipal resource guide**) achieve significant energy efficiency savings, reduce local emissions, participate in the transition to a clean energy economy, and improve resilience in the face of climate change.

Please visit the VCPC website for more information or **to become a member**: www.vtenergydashboard.org/pledge

(Note: In this document, “businesses, non-profits, academic institutions, farms, membership organizations and networks, and utilities” will be collectively referred to as “organizations” (or “organization” if the sentence refers to an individual).

Resources for Organizations

Energy Use

- **Tracking Energy Use**
([https://www.vtenergydashboard.org/vtclimateactioncommunities - inventory](https://www.vtenergydashboard.org/vtclimateactioncommunities-inventory)) - Tracking energy usage is an important first step toward achieving your organization’s energy goals. This is essential for identifying opportunities to improve efficiency and for evaluating the effectiveness of efficiency projects your organization has already implemented. Through energy use tracking, your organization can establish energy use benchmarks so it can compare its energy usage with state and national averages.
 - **Benchmarking** - Benchmarking serves as a mechanism to measure the energy performance of a single building over time, relative to other similar buildings, or modeled simulations of a reference building built to a specific standard (such as an energy code). More information about benchmarking can be found at the Department of Energy website here: <http://www.energy.gov/eere/slsc/building-energy-use-benchmarking>
 - **Resources and Guides**
 - Enter data into the **EPA Portfolio Manager** (www.energystar.gov/buildings) to see how efficient your facility is compared to similar facilities.
 - Want to know how you stack up against similar facilities across the nation that look and operate like yours? The answer is the **EPA’s 1 – 100 ENERGY STAR score** (www.energystar.gov/buildings/about-us/how-can-

[we-help-you/benchmark-energy-use/benchmarking](#)).
It's available for 21 different types of facilities.

- **Energy Data Management Webinar Series – Part II: Benchmarking Energy Data Analysis** (<http://www.energy.gov/node/2066114>) - The U.S. Department of Energy hosted a two-part webinar series to cover energy data management. Part 2 helps organizations identify problems associated with their building energy data, verify the accuracy of data, and help clean data.
- The U.S. Department of Energy's **Building Energy Use Benchmarking Resource Center** (<http://www.energy.gov/eere/slsc/building-energy-use-benchmarking>) has information on developing a benchmarking plan for your organization, as well as links to useful benchmarking tools and information on outreach, partner engagement, data collection, and more.
- To learn more about the benefits of benchmarking, download the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership's **Benchmarking Factsheet** (www.neep.org/capee/download.php?r=3).
- The Institute for Market Research has also developed a useful brief on **Energy Benchmarking and Transparency Benefits** (<http://www.imt.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/IMTBenefitsofBenchmarkingOnlineJune2015.pdf>).
- The **Energy Star Building Manual** (www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/buildings/tools/DataTrendsSavings20121002.pdf) provides an overview of benchmarking and its benefits as well as the essential components of a successful benchmarking plan for your building
- Stories and Case Studies
 - **Hospitals work for a Healthy Planet through Energy Efficiency** - www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/hospitals-work-for-healthy-planet-through-energy-efficiency
- **Identifying Energy-Saving Opportunities** - Before embarking on efficiency upgrades, organizations should determine where their resources would have the greatest impact. There are a number of different approaches organizations can take to identify the most profitable energy-saving initiatives.

- **Comprehensive Energy Assessments** - How can an organization determine where to get the biggest bang for its buck? Conducting energy assessments or energy audits of its property is an important step in developing a comprehensive list of energy-saving opportunities. Certified energy professionals, who provide a prioritized list of recommended improvements along with associated costs, conduct these assessments.
 - Resources and Guides
 - See the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships' **Community Action Planning for Energy Efficiency** tool to identify energy efficiency needs and action steps: www.neep.org/capee/
 - Schedule an over the phone or professional on-site assessment through Efficiency Vermont here: <http://www.encyvermont.com/services/energy-assessments/home-energy-assessments>
 - Stories and Case Studies
 - According to the Orleans County Courthouse, Orleans County reduced energy use by 57% and the Sheriff's Department by 59% with the help of Efficiency Vermont. (<https://www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/partnership-delivers-energy-saving-results>)

Building Energy Efficiency Improvements

Reducing the energy used to heat, cool and light buildings is essential to reducing energy use and saving money.

Thermal Efficiency - Air sealing and insulation go hand-in-hand and are two of the most cost-effective ways to save on thermal energy. Air sealing creates an air barrier that prevents heated/cooled air from leaving the workplace, while insulation creates a thermal barrier that prevents conductive heat loss.

- Resources and Guides
 - **NWWVT Heat Squad** - A service of NeighborWorks of Western Vermont that provides low-cost energy audits for homes and businesses. Audits are provided in Rutland, Addison, Bennington, Windham, and Windsor counties and to the neighboring communities. Heat Squad is in the process of expanding into the Northeast Kingdom. Learn more here: <https://heatsquad.org/about-heatsquad/>
 - The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership's **Regional Operations & Maintenance Guide for High-Performance Schools and Public Buildings** (<https://neep.org/regional-operations-maintenance-guide-high-performance-schools-and-public-buildings-northeast-and>) provides a thorough guide to improving the thermal, water and electric efficiency of your organization's building.

- Learn how to **initiate a thermal efficiency campaign** by checking out the following resource: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/become-a-campaign-manager>
- **Participate in Heating Campaigns** – Heating campaigns are a way for communities to come together to take concrete actions toward achieving their residential heating and efficiency goals. Heating campaigns can be led by individuals within your community or by statewide organizations such as Button Up Vermont.
 - **Button Up** - Button Up Vermont is an annual community-based, public outreach campaign to promote home energy efficiency improvements – particularly helping people reduce heating and cooling costs. The campaign focuses on all Vermonters and is designed to provide opportunities for all individuals to take actions – from simple weather stripping to comprehensive home energy efficiency improvements. Learn more here: <http://buttonupvermont.org/>
 - Stories and Case Studies
 - Glover Sees Drop in Electricity Use During Button Up Day Challenge - Read more here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/glover-sees-drop-in-electricity-use-during-button-up-day-challenge>
- **Air Conditioning with Heat Pumps** – Heat pumps work the same way AC units do—by using electrical energy to move heat from inside to the outdoors. However, heat pumps have a switch that let you change its function from cooling to heating in the winter. Furthermore, heat pumps use less than 50% of the energy a typical AC window unit uses.
 - Resources and Guides
 - Visit Efficiency Vermont’s website to learn more and to view available rebates for heat pump installation: <https://www.encyvermont.com/tips-tools/guides/keeping-cool-with-heat-pumps>
 - Want to find out how much money you can save by installing a heat pump? Check out Energy Co-op of Vermont’s website: www.ecvt.net/service-category/what-do-heat-pumps-cost
 - Vermont Digger wrote an article on Heat Pump technology available in Vermont. Read it here: <https://vtdigger.org/2018/05/15/new-heat-pump-technology-unveiled-vermont/>
 - Still have questions about heat pumps? VPIRG has answers! Find VPIRG’s answers to common heat pump questions here: <https://www.vpirg.org/question/air-source-heat-pumps-your-questions-answered/>
- **Weatherization** – Weatherizing a building involves making adjustments to a building’s thermal shell or envelope, which consists of an insulation layer, an air control layer (e.g., drywall and other air barriers), a vapor control layer (e.g., paint on interior walls, paper facing on insulation), and a bulk water

control layer (e.g., tar paper or other material behind siding). This whole-building approach to efficiency focuses on savings comfort, health, and safety. Learn more at www.encyvermont.com/services/renovaton-construction/weatherization

- Resources and Guides
 - **“Weatherize”** is a community-based outreach program designed to help people increase air sealing and insulation in their homes. Under the program, weatherization contractors agree to conduct free-walk home energy assessments in exchange for homeowners completing an online energy survey. Community groups work with resident and contractors to usher the process along. Learn more here: <http://vitalcommunities.org/energy/weatherize/>
 - Visit Vital Communities' **Weatherize Resources Page** to learn how to run a campaign in your community here: <http://vitalcommunities.org/energy/weatherize/resources/>
 - Learn more about home **weatherizing** and available resources at Efficiency Vermont here: www.encyvermont.com/services/renovaton-construction/weatherization
- Stories and Case Studies
 - Norwich Celebrates Energy Efficiency With Yarn Bomb! – Read the full story here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/norwich-celebrates-energy-efficiency-with-yarn-bomb>

Retro-Commissioning - A process that seeks to improve the efficiency of existing building equipment and systems. By analyzing system performance in areas such as heating and lighting and making adjustments to improve them, large savings could be seen with relatively little upfront cost.

- Resources and Guides
 - **Efficiency Vermont’s Retro-commissioning Program** (www.encyvermont.com/services/project-support/retrocommissioning) helps walk businesses through the process of optimizing their existing systems.
- Stories and Case Studies
 - Read about the retro-commissioning of the Montpelier Police Station here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/retro-commissioning-the-montpelier-police-station>

NetZero Buildings - NetZero buildings are buildings where the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy supplied to the building. If your municipality is planning on constructing a new building or undertaking a major upgrade to an existing building,

Efficiency Vermont is available to provide technical and financial assistance to help achieve net-zero energy.

- Resources and Guides
 - Check out the LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) website for the latest on green building here:
<https://new.usgbc.org/leed>
- Stories and Case Studies
 - Find out more about Vermont's first net-zero affordable housing development to be Built in Waltham here:
www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/vermont-s-first-net-zero-affordable-housing-development-to-be-built-in-waltham
 - Read about how a couple created a comfortable net-zero home with help from Vermod here:
www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/couple-creates-comfortable-net-zero-home-with-help-from-vermod
 - Check out Vermont's "greenest" buildings here:
<http://www.vtgreenbuildingnetwork.org/2018/04/19/2017-vermonts-greenest-building-award-winners-announced/>

Hot Water Efficiency - Water heating is often the second largest energy consumer. Low-cost measures include installing low-flow water devices and pipe wrap. Depending on your current water heating needs, heat pump hot water heaters can offer enormous savings on your water-heating bill.

- Resources and Guides
 - The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership's **Regional Operations & Maintenance Guide for High-Performance Schools and Public Buildings** (<https://neep.org/regional-operations-maintenance-guide-high-performance-schools-and-public-buildings-northeast-and>) provides a thorough guide to improving the thermal, water and electric efficiency of your organization's building.
 - **Solar water heating systems** - Learn about Efficiency Vermont's partnership with Sunward Systems and Sunnovations, an effort to help Vermonters install affordable solar water heating systems in their homes by reading about it here:
www.encyvermont.com/news-blog/news/ency-vermont-sunward-systems-to-launch-new-solar-water-heating-initiative

Electric Efficiency - Electrical savings opportunities are varied for organizations – from HVAC controls and lighting in your building, to pumps and aeration in the wastewater treatment facilities. Check with Efficiency Vermont for opportunities to improve electrical efficiency. Visit their website www.encyvermont.com for more information.

- Resources and Guides
 - The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership's **Regional Operations & Maintenance Guide for High-Performance Schools and Public**

Buildings (<https://neep.org/regional-operations-maintenance-guide-high-performance-schools-and-public-buildings-northeast-and>) provides a thorough guide to improving the thermal, water and electric efficiency of your organization's building.

- Learn more about solar energy in the Renewable Energy section!

Resilient Buildings - Resilient buildings are those that are designed to adapt to our changing climate. Learn more here:

<http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/vtclimateactioncommunities-resilientbuildings>

- Resources and Guides
 - The Clean Energy Group **Resilient Power Project Toolkit**: <https://www.cleangroup.org/ceg-projects/resilient-power-project/toolkit/>
 - Find the **Resilient Building Lab** here: <https://resilientbuildings.org/>
 - Read about **The State of Resilience in Vermont** here: <https://resilientvt.org/2015/12/29/the-state-of-resilience-in-vermont/>
 - Fine the **Roadmap to Resilience in Vermont: A Road Map** here: <https://resilientvt.org/project-documents/>
 - Learn more about **Incentives for Resilient Buildings** by reading here: <http://www.naiop.org/en/Magazine/2015/Fall-2015/Development-Ownership/Incentives-for-Resilient-Buildings>
- Stories and Case Studies
 - Read about Adapting Buildings for a Changing Climate in New York State here: <https://resilientbuildings.org/research/>
 - Read about the fact that Cleveland sees clean energy as tool for climate change resiliency here: <https://resilientbuildings.org/2018/02/13/cleveland-sees-clean-energy-as-tool-for-climate-change-resiliency/>
 - Hurricane Sandy and adaptation pathways in New York: Lessons from a first-responder city – Find the story here: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S095937801400910>

Renewable Energy

Supporting renewable energy can be a great way for municipalities to reduce energy costs, stabilize and predict energy expenses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and help support local jobs and the economy. Read about the EPA's recommendations for on-site renewable energy generation for State and Local Governments here: <http://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/site-renewable-energy-generation>

Renewable Energy Siting - There are many important considerations to keep in mind when selecting sites for renewable energy generation, including

opportunities for electricity generation, and possible constraints, such as avoiding or minimizing impacts to ecologically sensitive areas.

- Resources and Guides
 - **VECAN Community Solar Toolkit** - The toolkit provides information about the many factors to consider when selected a site for a renewable energy project. Find it here: <https://vecan.net/guidelines-good-practices-permits/>
 - Have you considered pollinators? Read about Energy Action Network's **Pollinator-Friendly Solar Initiative** here: <http://eanvt.org/regulatory-reform/pollinator-friendly-solar-initiative/>

Solar Energy

- Resources and Guides
 - **Find the solar installer nearest you!** (Find Burlington-specific resources on the page that follows.) View Renewable Energy Vermont's list of solar installation companies: <http://www.revermont.org/?s=SOLAR>
 - A Homeowner's Guide to Solar Financing: Leases, Loans and PPAs <https://www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/a-homeowners-guide-to-solar-financing-leases-loans-and-ppas>
 - If you are a **Green Mountain Power customer** who is interested in installing solar, you must apply for a Net Metering Certificate of Public Good from the Vermont Public Service Board. Learn more here: <https://greenmountainpower.com/help/net-metering/eligible-take-advantage-gmp-solar/>
 - What is Net Metering? Learn on the next page
 - Is your organization interested in installing solar and located in **Burlington**? Check out this resource:
 - The Burlington Electric Department (BED) works with several solar installers who offer free estimates for solar on your property. If you are interested in a solar project up to 15 kilowatts (enough for many small businesses and for most homes), fill out the form on their website: www.burlingtonelectric.com/solar
- **Net Metering** - Net Metering is the term used to describe the set-up by which Vermonters can get a meter installed on their solar to track the ratio of the amount of electricity they are generating each month and putting into the grid versus the amount of electricity they are using. If the system generates more electricity than the customer used in a month, Green Mountain power records a credit towards the customer's next bill.
 - Resources and Guides
 - Green Mountain Power customers can learn more here: <https://greenmountainpower.com/help/net-metering/what-is-net-metering/>

- Burlington Electric customers can learn more here: www.burlingtonelectric.com/net-metering
- **Solar Water Heating Systems** - Learn about Efficiency Vermont's partnership with Sunward Systems and Sunnovations, an effort to help Vermonters install affordable solar water heating systems in their homes by reading about it here: www.encyvermont.com/news-blog/news/efficiency-vermont-sunward-systems-to-launch-new-solar-water-heating-initiative
- **Community Solar** - Community solar is a way of providing solar power to organizations that lack adequate access to the sun on their rooftops or land. 'Community solar' can refer to both community-owned projects as well as projects owned by a third party whose electricity is shared by a community. Learn more here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/vtclimateactioncommunities-solarize>
 - Resources and Guides
 - Here is the **Clean Energy State Alliance's guide to community solar**: <https://www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/consumer-protection-for-community-solar-a-guide-for-states>
- **Solarize Efforts** - Solarize is a program where communities partner with solar installers on outreach to make solar energy more accessible to residents. The program also includes a tiered pricing-structure that brings the cost of solar down as more residents sign contracts with their partner installers.
 - Resources and Guides
 - **Solarize Toolkit** - Solarize is a proven model for motivating your neighbors to go solar. Most towns engaging in the program more than double the number of existing solar homes in less than a year. Find the toolkit here: <http://vitalcommunities.org/energy/solarizetoolkit/>
 - Stories and Case Studies
 - Thetford collaborated with Vital Communities and Strafford on a Solarize project that almost tripled the amount of residential on-site solar in our towns in 5 months! Learn more here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/solarize-thetford>

Energy Education

Educational Workshops - Efficiency Vermont offers free educational workshops for community groups and businesses to help Vermonters make energy improvements.

- Resources and Guides
 - Efficiency Vermont offers **free educational workshops** for community groups and businesses to help Vermonters make energy

improvements. Each workshop addresses how a particular technology works, associated economics, and available technical and financial resources. We provide an energy expert to deliver the presentation, guidance on how to effectively organize a workshop, and educational and public outreach materials. Find more information here:

www.encyvermont.com/services/education-events/workshops-consumer-education

VEEP - The **Vermont Energy Education Program** (VEEP) strives to help students gain a deep understanding of what energy is and how to use it efficiently. VEEP offers hands-on, "minds-on" science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education for Vermont K-12 students and teachers statewide. Learn more here: <http://veep.org/>

Energy Fairs - Energy fairs provide an opportunity for exhibitors to showcase their organizations and projects to the public, and also offer break out sessions, demonstrations, and information and products and programs that can help individuals save money and energy.

- Stories and Case Studies
 - Waterbury LEAP Energy Fair - Waterbury LEAP hosts an annual energy fair which features 75 + exhibitors and breakout sessions on topics from going solar to heat pumps. Learn more here: www.waterburyleap.org/projects/leap-energy-fair/

Transportation

Electric Vehicles (EVs) and EV Charging Stations - Take action to prepare for the transition to electric vehicles.

- Resources and Guides
 - Contact or visit **Drive Electric Vermont** at <http://www.driveelectricvt.com/> to learn more about the benefits of electric vehicles, find a map of all existing charging stations in Vermont, and myriad other resources regarding EV's.

Employee Incentives - Organizations can encourage drivers to adopt efficient driving behaviors by offering incentives, such as recognition and special privileges

- Resources and Guides
 - Check out this Vital Communities **resource for working with businesses on transportation efficiency** here: <http://vitalcommunities.org/transportation/employer/>
- Stories and Case Studies
 - Read about CATMA's Bike/Walk Rewards program here: <https://catmavt.org/program/bike-walk-rewards-program>

No Idling Policies and Technology - Reducing idling can save money, improve air quality and health, and slow the advance of climate change. Organizations can take action to reduce idling of their own vehicle fleets, as well as...

- Resources and Guides
 - Check out **Idle Free Vermont's website** <http://www.idlefreevt.org/> for many resources, including idle free policies and fleet approaches.
 - The **IdleBox Toolkit** on the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition website has information on idle reduction technology available for vehicles ranging from heavy equipment to school buses and passenger cars. Find the toolkit here: <http://vtccc.w3.uvm.edu/idle-reduction/>
- Stories and Case Studies
 - View a list of businesses who have already implemented idling reduction policies here: <http://idlefreevt.org/idling-reduction-policies.html>

Way to Go! - Way To Go! is a two-week long annual transportation campaign for K-12 schools in Vermont. The goal of the campaign is to reduce carbon pollution and raise awareness about energy and transportation issues in Vermont by encouraging students, staff, and teachers to use alternative modes of transportation such as biking, walking or carpooling. Learn more here:

<http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/vtclimateactioncommunities-waytogo>

- Resources and Guides
 - See the **Way To Go! informational poster** here: https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/mosaicstg/pages/16294/attachments/original/1524671806/WTG.008.17_SCHOOL.ONE_SHEET_ER.pdf
 - **Additional resources for schools** can be found here: http://www.waytogovt.org/tools_for_success

Financing Energy Improvements

Energy investments are different from other investments because the return on investment is money that is not spent on future energy bills. There are plenty of funding opportunities that make energy projects affordable to install.

Heat Saver Loans - The Heat Saver Loan is a fast, easy, and flexible way to finance home weatherization and heating improvements.

- Resources and Guides
 - www.encyvermont.com/services/financing/homes/heat-saver-loan

Home Performance Energy Projects - Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is an incentive-based program to improve insulation, air sealing, and heating and ventilation systems, to ensure safety and health.

- Resources and Guides
 - www.encyvermont.com/rebates/list/home-performance-with-energy-star

Advanced Wood Heat Wood Stove Change Out - Wood Stove Change-Out programs offer homeowners rebates to fund the removal of their old stoves and the purchase and installation of new, advanced wood heat stoves--usually a pellet boiler. Rebates are scaled based on household size and income, giving those with limited income the most assistance.

- Resources and Guides
 - www.rerc-vt.org/advanced-wood-heating-systems

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership - The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships' Innovative Opportunities for Financing Energy Efficiency Upgrades presentation on funding renewable energy and efficiency projects.

- Resources and Guides
 - www.neep.org/sites/default/files/resources/BBBD2016FinancingPanel.pdf

Community Energy & Efficiency Development Fund (CEED) - Through Green Mountain Power, this fund is open to proposals from municipalities seeking to take on electric efficiency projects, renewable/clean energy programs, and new technologies in their communities.

- Resources and Guides
<https://greenmountainpower.com/2013/01/13/community-energy-efficiency-development-fund-ceed/>

Bonds & Financing and Grants

- Resources and Guides
 - Clean Energy Finance through the Bond Market: A New Option for Progress <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CleanEnergyFunds.pdf>
 - What Investors Want: How to Scale-Up Demand for US Clean Energy and Green Bonds <https://www.cleanegroup.org/ceg-resources/resource/what-investors-want-how-to-scale-up-demand-for-us-clean-energy-and-green-bonds/>
 - Ramp Up Resilient Power Finance: Bundle Project Loans Through a Warehouse Facility to Achieve Scale <https://www.cleanegroup.org/ceg-resources/resource/ramp-up-resilient-power-finance-bundle-project-loans-through-a-warehouse-facility-to-achieve-scale/>

- Go to <https://www.cleangroup.org/publications-library/> and sort by “Clean Energy Finance” on the righthand side under “Projects” then select “Filter.”
- **USDA Community Facilities Program** provides grants and loan guarantees for certain municipal and non-profit projects. Award is based on the median income and size of the community; up to 75% of capital cost. Learn more here: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

Revolving Loan Funds - One unique approach to financing municipal energy improvements is to establish a revolving loan fund wherein an initial pool of capital is used to fund energy investments, and the energy savings associated with these projects are put back into the fund to fund additional energy improvements.

- Resources and Guides
 - **Green Revolving Funds: A Guide to Implementation & Management** combines the expertise of energy professionals and college administrators from dozens of institutions to establish best practices for designing and managing green revolving funds (GRFs). The resource is a co-publication of the Sustainable Endowments Institute (SEI) and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) and was developed with the consulting firm ICF International. Access the guide here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/90-by-2050/detail/montpelier-net-zero-revolving-loan-fund>
- Stories and Case Studies
 - “The Clean Energy Fund (CEF) is a student-initiated, student-supported fund created to fulfill students’ vision of the University of Vermont running efficiently on a fraction of its current energy needs, powered by clean, locally produced renewable energy that fulfills both the University’s needs and supports the local economy.” Read more about the University of Vermont’s **Clean Energy Fund** here: <http://www.uvm.edu/cleanenergyfund>.
 - **Montpelier Launches Revolving Loan Fund for Energy Saving Projects** - After the successful completion of several major initiatives including bringing a district heating system on-line in downtown Montpelier, installing one Megawatt of municipal solar, and seeing significant savings at the Water Resource Recovery Facility, MEAC wanted to find out if there was a way the City could reinvest savings from these municipal projects into additional energy-related initiatives. Learn more here: <http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/stories/montpelier-launches-revolving-loan-fund-for-energy-saving-projects>

Contact Information

Please don't hesitate to contact the organizations coordinating this effort:

- Arielle Cheifetz, Vermont Climate Pledge Coalition Intern (acheifetz@burlingtonelectric.com)
- Jennifer Green, Sustainability Officer for the City of Burlington (jgreen@burlingtonelectric.com)
- Rob Fish, Energy Action Network (<http://rfish@eanvt.org>, 802-383-8527)

We're happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have!

Thank you for your commitment to a more sustainable Vermont!