

Vermont Policy & Incentives Highlights



Disclaimer: Not a comprehensive summary of the policies and incentives applicable in the state. Visit www.dsireusa.org or local utility websites for additional programs and details.

Definitions

Building Codes	Building Performance Standards	Incentives & Rebates
<p>Model Building Codes: National consensus-based codes like ASHRAE® Standard 90.1 and IECC</p> <p>State Building Codes: Often based on model codes, but can be unique to local market</p> <p>Stretch Building Codes: A locally mandated code or alternative compliance path that is more aggressive than base code</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (BPS) Complements building energy codes; the 2 strategies work in tandem to improve building performance• State/City laws that require existing buildings to improve energy efficiency and/or carbon emissions• Typically, includes energy efficiency, water conservation, indoor air quality and indoor environmental standards	<p>Prescriptive: includes...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct 1:1 replacement for commonly installed equipment• Specific dollar amounts for completing qualifying energy efficiency measures <p>Custom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Based on energy saved over a specified baseline period• Calculated in terms of peak kW, kWh, therms or per sq ft to be saved by efficiency measure or equipment

Current Policies and Trends

Energy Efficiency Utilities

The Vermont Public Utility Commission has appointed three entities to deliver electricity and heating-and-process-fuel energy efficiency services to residential and business consumers throughout Vermont. [Efficiency Vermont](#) (operated by the [Vermont Energy Investment Corporation](#)) delivers services in most of the state. [Burlington Electric Department](#) and Vermont Gas Systems deliver services in their service territory. The services offered by these “Energy Efficiency Utilities” help consumers and businesses invest now in energy efficiency measures that will save Vermonters money.

Energy Efficiency Utility Performance Evaluation

The Public Utility Commission has delegated to the Department of Public Service the responsibility to evaluate, measure, and verify services offered and savings claimed by the Energy Efficiency Utilities.

Vermont Public Utility Commission Energy Efficiency Regulation

The [Public Utility Commission website](#) has comprehensive information regarding the regulation of the Energy Efficiency Utilities, including links to ongoing and historical proceedings to set budgets, performance targets, and more.

Efficiency Vermont

[Efficiency Vermont \(EVT\)](#) is one of Vermont’s Energy Efficiency Utilities. This comprehensive site describes EVT’s programs and service offerings that can help you identify the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy use in your home or business. EVT can also be reached by calling 1-888- 921-5990.

Burlington Electric Department

[Burlington Electric Department \(BED\)](#) is one of Vermont’s Energy Efficiency Utilities. This comprehensive site describes BED’s programs and service offerings that can help you identify the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy use in your home or business. BED can also be reached by calling 1-802-865-7300.

Vermont Gas Systems Efficiency Programs

[Vermont Gas Systems](#) offers comprehensive thermal efficiency programs including rebates, financing, and technical assistance for cost-effective natural gas saving measures for both its residential and business customers.

Vermont’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions

For reports documenting Vermont’s GHG emissions, please see the following reports at the links below:

- [Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Reference Case Projections - Governor’s Commission on Climate Change \(1990 - 2030\)](#)

Additional climate change information can be found at:

- Learn more about the state’s climate change work at climatechange.vermont.gov
- Learn more about the state’s participation in the [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative](#). At this time, the Vermont CO2 Budget Trading Program includes the following three project types:
 - a. Avoided methane emissions from agricultural manure management;
 - b. Landfill methane capture and destruction; and
 - c. Sequestration of carbon as a result of reforestation, improved forest management, or avoided forest conversion.

Available Financial Incentives and Guidance

Vermont has many programs and services that may be able to help you heat and cool your building more efficiently. Some of these programs offer tips, while others provide the analysis and recommendations you need for a complete energy retrofit.

Incentives and Rebates - If you are interested in learning more about efficiency incentives and rebates for business, please find your energy provider below and click on the link to discover what there is for you.

- [Efficiency Vermont](#) (also known as EVT and operated by Vermont Energy Investment Corporation) is the electric energy efficiency utility for most of the state: (888) 921-5990
- [Vermont Energy Saver](#) rebates and financial incentives
- [Burlington Electric Department](#) (BED) is the electric energy efficiency utility in its territory: (802) 865-7300
- [Vermont Gas](#) (VGS) is the natural gas energy efficiency utility in its territory: (802) 863-4511
- [Vermont Clean Energy Development Fund](#) (CEDF) offers incentives for qualified advanced wood heating equipment through the Small Scale Renewable Energy Investment Program, managed by the Renewable Energy Resource Center. **RERC Toll Free Hotline:** 1 (877) 888-7372
Email: info@rerc-vt.org
- The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) maintains a comprehensive [list of incentives and rebates](#) for all wood heating systems. Download the handout at the bottom of the FPR webpage [here](#).
- Federal Government: [Energy.gov](#) keeps track of the latest energy-related tax and rebate offers from the [states](#) and [federal government](#). The [U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Rural Development](#) offers grants and financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects for single and multifamily homes, commercial properties and other businesses.
- Delivered Fuel Providers, Co-Ops and Fuel Group Organizations: See, the [Energy Coop of Vermont](#), the [Ruth Clark Fuel Group](#), and the [VHEAT Fuel Buying Program](#) offered through Vermont State Employees Credit Union.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Commercial Building Info:

- This [EPA Commercial Buildings](#) webpage is a resource for energy strategies for buildings and plants.
- This [EPA Small Building Owners and Managers](#) webpage is a resource for energy strategies for small business owners who own or rent buildings.

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