

Empowering you to make smart energy choices



The City of North Haven has made a concerted effort to reduce energy consumption since its initiation into the Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program. By signing the CEC pledge, North Haven has committed to reducing their energy consumption 20 percent by 2018. Benchmarking work is being completed by both the municipality and the Board of Education (BOE) in the EPA ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager. Through the Energize Connecticut initiative, United Illuminating (UI) has worked in conjunction with First Selectman Michael Freda and the North Haven Clean Energy Task Force to assist residents of the town on a variety of energy reduction programs in an effort to achieve their goal. North Haven was one of only five municipalities to receive a gold award at the 2015 Energize Connecticut CEC Awards Ceremony.

## North Haven Uses Bright Idea Grants to Subsidize Home Energy Solutions<sup>SM</sup> Assessments

North Haven has been an immensely active municipality in the CEC program. Since its inception, the town has earned three Bright Idea Grants (BIGs) worth \$10,000 each. In March 2016, they chose to use this money to give back to the community by absorbing the \$99 co-pay for Home Energy Solutions assessments for 300 residents. The town has made conscientious efforts to expand this program through tabling promotions at events such as the weekly summer concert series.







This is not the first time that North Haven has fostered an initiative like this. In 2010, the town received funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and used that money to provide Home Energy Solutions assessments for free to residents. The campaign proved to be highly successful and serves as the basis for offering these same services again.

Between 2010 and 2016, 1,900 residents, or 21 percent of the Town of North Haven, have participated in the Home Energy Solutions program.

## First Selectman Freda Leads by Example

In 2011, First Selectman Michael Freda was present as one North Haven resident's home was used to launch a series of Home Energy Solutions<sup>SM</sup> assessments being provided to the community at no cost. By attending, Freda hoped to encourage other residents to improve their energy performance by registering for the program. This assessment was part of a town-wide initiative endorsing energy efficiency and was aimed at saving members of the North Haven community money on their electric bills. By promoting the Home Energy Solutions program, Freda implored residents to take control of their energy future and use the program to make their home more energy efficient.

As a Clean Energy Community, North Haven received points towards potential Bright Idea Grants (BIG) for every home that completes an assessment. This BIG money can be used towards any energy-saving product to further enhance the city's commitment to energy efficiency. North Haven utilized the sum of their BIG money achieved through various projects to sponsor no-cost Home Energy Solutions assessments to 300 residents in 2016.

## **Energize Connecticut Center Opens in North Haven**

On June 13, 2015, the Energize Connecticut Center opened in North Haven. The Energize Connecticut Center is the only comprehensive and free resource in Connecticut where adults and children can experience hands-on learning to discover energy-efficient and renewable energy ideas and solutions.

As a fun and interactive attraction, the Energize Connecticut Center is part museum and part resource center. Interactive displays illustrate energy sources, power generation and ways to use energy efficiently at home, in business and in the community. This resource center was designed to help everyone in Connecticut make smart energy choices.

This center is a collaborative effort between Eversource and UI through the Energize Connecticut initiative and has been embraced by the North Haven community.



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