



Empowering you to make
smart energy choices

WOODBIDGE A UI CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY

The Town of Woodbridge has made a concerted effort to reduce energy consumption since its initiation into the Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program. By signing the CEC pledge, Woodbridge 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 the Woodbridge Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task Force to assist residents of the town on a variety of energy reduction programs in an effort to achieve their goal.

Woodbridge Energy Challenge Creates Change and Generates Money for Town Fund

Throughout 2015, residents of Woodbridge partook in the Woodbridge Energy Challenge, a joint effort between the Town of Woodbridge, The Woodbridge Ad Hoc Energy Task Force, the Connecticut Solar Challenge and UI. This initiative ran in conjunction with the CEC program and aimed to address energy efficiency in Woodbridge homes by offering reduced insulation pricing through the Home Energy SolutionsSM program.

The Woodbridge Energy Challenge was comprised of two parts. First, residents were encouraged to go green by creating a more energy efficient home through a Home Energy Solutions assessment and converting to solar. To aid in this process, the second part of the initiative consisted of a series of educational workshops held throughout the year.



New England Conservation Services (NECS) and New England Smart Energy (NESE) were also partners in this initiative and incentivized residents to participate in the Home Energy Solutions program by offering a \$25 donation to the Woodbridge Food and Fuel Fund for every completed Home Energy Solutions assessment.

The Woodbridge Food and Fuel fund offers assistance with electric, gas or heating bills to those who qualify and also provides perishable foods for patrons of the Emergency Food Closet. Thanks to the active and energy-conscious Woodbridge community, enough Home Energy Solutions assessments were performed to garner a donation of \$3,100 that will help the Woodbridge Food and Fuel Fund continue to serve the community.

The Great Light Bulb Exchange Brightens Up Woodbridge

In November 2015, residents of Woodbridge were invited to join the Woodbridge Ad Hoc Energy Advisory Task force and the residential energy team from UI at the Woodbridge Senior Center Holiday Fair to partake in the Great Light Bulb Exchange.

In an effort to make homes more energy efficient, attendees were able to exchange two incandescent bulbs for two 75 watt equivalent high-efficiency light-emitting diode (LED) counterparts. A vendor was also on-site offering an immediate rebate of \$2.00 for each additional bulb purchased, up to 20 bulbs.

A total of 364 bulbs were exchanged and each resident will save \$222.77 over the lifetime of each bulb. The Town of Woodbridge generated total savings of \$81,088.32, or \$3,556.51 each year. Additionally, each participant will save 1,173 kilowatt-hours (kWh) over the lifetime of each LED resulting in a total savings of 427,118 kWh for the town.

DEEP Commissioner Robert Klee Demonstrates the Importance of Energy Efficiency by Partaking in the Home Energy Solutions Program

In October 2014, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Commissioner Robert Klee had a Home Energy Solutions assessment performed on his Woodbridge



home. In addition, Klee also had a site assessment performed to see if his home was eligible for solar power. In an effort to lead by example, Klee wanted to experience firsthand the many services offered through the Energize Connecticut initiative to obtain a better understanding before encouraging residents to sign-up.

As a Clean Energy Community, Woodbridge received points towards obtaining a Bright Idea Grant (BIG) for Klee's participation in the Home Energy Solutions program.

Woodbridge Residents Use Kill-A-Watt Meters to Take Control of their Energy Bills

In 2016, Kill-A-Watt® energy meters were made available at the Woodbridge public library. These devices are designed to help residents track and analyze their energy consumption by monitoring energy usage in specific applications throughout their home and identifying which ones are creating spikes in their monthly bills.



Using the information that the meters provide, residents are able to calculate their daily cost and extrapolate it out to encompass what they pay per week, month or even per year. By using this knowledge to classify the "energy wasters" in their homes, residents have been able to manage their usage and take control of their energy bills.



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