



*Hood River Middle School, Hood River*

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR

## MAXIMIZING EFFICIENCY

In 2014, public agencies worked with Energy Trust to improve the energy efficiency of nearly 300 public sites across the state, including:

- 107 city sites
- 86 county sites
- 114 K-12 public schools sites
- 10 water district sites

In addition, 14 renewable energy systems were installed and are generating clean, renewable power.

Participating agencies received more than \$6.4 million in cash incentives for these investments, which saved or generated 26.7 million kilowatt hours of electricity and saved 228,000 therms of natural gas last year. That's enough energy to power 2,360 homes and heat 450 homes with natural gas for a year.

Energy-efficiency and renewable energy improvements are right in line with the purpose of public organizations—to serve. Reducing energy costs frees funds for important public priorities, and demonstrates good stewardship of taxpayer or contributor dollars.

Energy Trust of Oregon can help with cash incentives, technical assistance, finding a contractor and identifying energy-efficiency improvements and renewable energy solutions.

Energy-efficiency projects can decrease operating expenses. They can also create more comfortable conditions for employees and visitors while conserving resources and reducing environmental impacts.

Since its founding, Energy Trust has worked closely with public sector customers to maximize their energy investments.

## Helping city, county and state government

Energy Trust can work with state agencies served by Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas. We also support communities participating in the state and federally funded Oregon Main Street program.

We work closely with the League of Oregon Cities, Association of Oregon Counties, Special Districts Association of Oregon, the Oregon University System, state agencies and Native American tribes in Oregon.

Federal facilities in Oregon have received Energy Trust support for energy-efficiency improvements, including National Forest Service, National Park Service at Crater Lake, General Services Administration and federal courthouses in Portland, Medford and Eugene.

Energy Trust can also provide technical assistance and cash incentives to public facilities for a range of renewable energy technologies, including solar electric, biopower, hydropower, geothermal and small-scale wind.



*Dallas Aquatic Center, Dallas*



*City Hall, Wood Village*

## ENERGY SOLUTIONS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF PUBLIC AGENCIES

### Existing commercial facilities

Older buildings can be upgraded for dramatic improvements in energy performance, and Energy Trust cash incentives can help offset costs. New, high-performance equipment for all major systems, insulation and energy management systems in a building can reduce energy consumption by up to 40 percent. Energy Trust can also fund comprehensive energy studies to help identify the most cost-effective way to improve facilities and provide counsel on the best way to begin and manage an energy management plan.

### Standard incentives

Work with a trade ally contractor, install qualifying equipment and submit your incentive application. Incentives are paid based on pre-determined savings assumptions, and are available for:

- Heating and cooling systems
- Insulation
- Lighting and lighting controls
- Lodging and foodservice equipment
- PC power management software systems
- Solar electric systems

### Custom incentives

Projects eligible for custom incentives typically require an engineering study or other technical assistance in the project design process. Energy Trust can determine if your project qualifies for an engineering analysis.

### New construction or major renovation of an existing facility

Designing a new or substantially renovated building with energy performance in mind can be the best way to ensure long-term energy savings. Energy Trust can help project stakeholders develop a facility that saves energy, creates a more comfortable and productive workplace and meets Oregon's renewable energy requirements. We do this by supporting the professional design and engineering services needed to maximize your investments in energy efficiency and renewable resources. You can also receive Energy Trust cash incentives that offset some of your investment costs in high-performance systems and equipment in the building. In addition, many costs associated with green building practices can be cost-neutral or be recovered through energy and water savings.



*Seaside Civic and Convention Center, Seaside*



*Portland VA Medical Center, Portland*



*Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham*

### **Design and technical support incentives**

Energy Trust can provide support to help offset the costs of services required to meet your project's energy goals, such as:

- Early design assistance
- Energy modeling assistance
- Commissioning
- Solar assessment

### **Installation incentives**

Incentives can help offset the costs of energy-efficient systems and equipment in your new building or major renovation. Projects may be eligible for standard incentives for equipment that meets energy-efficiency requirements, as determined by Energy Trust. Building types include: grocery, restaurants and foodservice, multifamily and lodging. Incentives can also be provided based on modeled savings which are calculated on the percentage of annual energy savings that a project achieves beyond code.

Incentives are also available for solar electric and other renewable energy technologies, which may be mandated for your project by Oregon's 1.5 Percent for Green Energy Technology law.

### **Residential multifamily properties**

Energy-efficiency improvements to multifamily housing properties can pay out in more ways than one. Simple upgrades can increase a property's value and curb appeal, and also reduce energy costs. Plus, by creating an energy-efficient environment, you can reduce maintenance costs and improve tenant satisfaction.

Energy Trust offers cash incentives for upgrades to windows, appliances, water heaters, insulation, heating and cooling systems, energy-efficient lighting and more. We can help you get started with a no-cost energy assessment to identify the most cost-effective upgrades for your property.

We'll also install high-performance LED light bulbs, faucet aerators and showerheads in each apartment unit at no cost. Free advanced power strips can also be provided to help tenants reduce energy consumption from their entertainment systems. These upgrades can help tenants save money and energy, and deliver water savings to the property manager.

### **Water and wastewater treatment plants**

Water and wastewater treatment operations are typically energy intensive. Energy Trust has helped a number of Oregon water and wastewater facilities realize significant savings—millions of dollars or more annually—by improving mechanical processes, upgrading lighting and lighting controls, installing solar electric systems and implementing hydropower and biopower systems.

We can offer cash incentives and technical assistance to help you save energy, lower operating expenses, reduce your environmental impact and contribute to a more sustainable future. No-cost technical analyses can identify custom efficiency improvements for existing facilities. These Detailed System Optimization Studies are performed by energy experts who model and assess your facility for opportunities to optimize energy use, and estimate project cost and annual energy savings.



*City of Pendleton Wastewater  
Treatment Facility, Pendleton*

## Renewable energy solutions

We can help you evaluate your renewable energy potential and develop a successful project. We also offer cash incentives to make your clean energy investment more affordable.

For biopower, geothermal, hydropower and wind projects, Energy Trust funding helps with early-stage work such as grant writing, feasibility studies, design, permitting and utility interconnection.

We also maintain a network of highly qualified trade ally contractors that will help you with assessment, design, installation and service of a solar project.

For all renewable energy technologies, cash incentives help defray the upfront cost of project installation and construction.

### Solar electric

Investing in solar technology can be a smart move for government. It controls energy costs and locks in predictable rates that make budgeting easier. A solar project also helps you achieve sustainability goals and demonstrates that your agency is committed to a cleaner energy future.

Public buildings undergoing new construction or major renovation must incorporate a solar or geothermal energy system under Oregon's 1.5 Percent for Green Energy Technology law. These projects are eligible for incentives from Energy Trust.

### Biopower

If you manage solid waste, wastewater, agricultural wastes or wood residue, you may be able to transform that organic waste into clean, renewable electricity.

### Hydropower

Some water distribution systems have the right conditions to install small-scale hydropower systems.

### Wind

In certain rural communities, public buildings located in open, windy areas may be candidates for a small- or mid-scale wind turbine.



Get more from your energy. Contact us today at **1.866.368.7878** or visit **[www.energytrust.org/public-sector](http://www.energytrust.org/public-sector)**.