



USING RENEWABLE ENERGY IS EASY!

Your guide to energy programs and resources to fit your needs.



The City of Louisville has assembled this renewable energy portfolio to help inform residents and businesses of the many ways to support and increase renewable energy in our community.



The City of Louisville continuously works towards a more sustainable future for both the natural environment and the community. In August of 2019, City Council unanimously agreed to the following goals for the community:

- » Generate 75% of Louisville's residential and commercial/ industrial electric needs from carbon-free sources by 2030
- » Reduce core community greenhouse gas emissions annually below the 2016 baseline through 2030

That's why we're making it easy for you to increase the amount of renewable energy you use at home!

Benefits of Renewable Energy

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the environmental and economic benefits of using renewable energy include:

- » Generating energy that produces no greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels and reduces some types of air pollution
- » Diversifying energy supply and reducing dependence on imported fuels
- » Creating economic development and jobs in manufacturing, installation, and more

Understanding Solar Options

» *What is community solar?*

A community solar garden is a collection of solar panels that benefit multiple households and businesses. When you subscribe to a solar garden, you're assigned a portion of those panels, and you receive monthly savings on your electric bill for the electricity your panels produce. It's a great option if you can't put solar panels on your home because no equipment is needed.

» *What is a solar co-op?*

A solar co-op is a group of property owners who use their combined buying power to save money installing rooftop solar. Co-op members leverage bulk-purchasing power to get discounted pricing and a quality installation, while still signing individual contracts that ensure the right system for their home. Boulder County is starting a solar co-op through Solar United Neighbors. Join the waitlist at bit.ly/LouisvilleSUNwaitlist.

» *What is a renewable energy subscription program?*

Renewable energy subscription programs offer customers all the benefits of renewable energy without the need to purchase or install equipment. Subscription programs offer homeowners, renters, businesses and beyond access to renewable energy when customers may not otherwise be able to participate. Each program will have different renewable sources, contract terms, eligibility, and other requirements.

Local Resources to Get Started on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC)

EOC leads a network of industry, state and local partners to support, stabilize and sustain Coloradans to afford their energy needs. An expert Energy Advisor can answer your questions, help prioritize projects, connect you with qualified contractors, find and apply for incentives and low-cost financing, and make energy upgrades easier and more affordable!

If your household income is at or below 80% of Boulder County's area median income you may be eligible to sign up for free community solar. No equipment necessary and save 50% on your electricity bill. Free to sign up or cancel at any time. Learn more at bit.ly/EOCsolar.

Sister Carmen Utility Assistance

Sister Carmen Community Center offers assistance with water and electric/gas bills for those experiencing financial hardship in Louisville. If you cannot pay your bill, please call 303-665-4342 to make an appointment with an Advocate.

Boulder County EnergySmart

EnergySmart helps homes in all Boulder County communities become more comfortable and energy efficient. An expert Energy Advisor can answer your questions, help prioritize projects, connect you with qualified contractors, find and apply for incentives and low-cost financing, and make energy upgrades easier and more affordable! Learn more and sign up at EnergySmartYES.com, or call an EnergySmart advisor at 303-544-1000.

Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE)

PACE is your one-stop-shop for business sustainability in Boulder County. Funding is available for the installation of solar systems on commercial properties, including those owned or occupied by for-profit businesses, nonprofit organizations, and multifamily housing. In addition to renewable energy incentives, PACE offers a plethora of additional sustainability resources and incentives to help your business achieve sustainability goals. Learn more at PACEpartners.com.



Xcel Energy Offers Solar and Wind Programs to Meet Your Needs!

Interested in renewable energy but confused what the choices are? After reviewing the options below, visit xcelenergy.com/Renewables to explore.

» *Interested in community solar?*

Sunscription Powered by US Solar

US Solar's Sunscription program guarantees 5% bill credit savings for all subscribers. Meaning as a subscriber, you'll receive credits on your Xcel Energy bill for the electricity your panels produce. You'll also pay a monthly fee to Sunscription, but the fee is guaranteed to be less than the credits you receive each month, meaning you can benefit from 100% renewable electricity at no extra cost. As an added bonus, Sunscription will credit your account \$100 when you sign up and they will make a \$100 donation to Sister Carmen to help others with utility assistance. Learn more at Sunscription.com/partners/louisville.

If you're interested in other community solar garden options, explore the Solar*Rewards Community® webpage.

» *Interested in subscription-based renewable energy?*

Windsorce® (transitioning to Renewable*Connect Flex)

An easy, flexible, low-risk way to power your home with wind energy. Your Windsorce subscription offers flexible enrollment and requires no equipment installation – choose how much wind power you subscribe to and adjust or cancel anytime. Windsorce subscriptions are available in 100 kilowatt-hour (kWh) blocks for a small additional premium on your monthly Xcel Energy bill.

» *Interested in rooftop solar?*

When installing rooftop solar, work with your solar installer and Xcel Energy to understand potential electrical infrastructure costs associated with your installation





Solar*Rewards®

Install solar panels at your home and then sign up for Solar*Rewards. It's an incentivized program so Xcel Energy will pay you for the energy produced in exchange for the Renewable Energy Credits.

Net Energy Metering

Have extra solar energy? With Net Energy metering, you can sell Xcel Energy the excess electricity generated.

Financing Resources

Resource	Description
<p>Federal Tax Credit</p> 	<p>The federal residential solar energy credit is a tax credit that can be claimed on federal income taxes for a percentage of the cost of a solar PV system paid for by the taxpayer.</p> <p>For residents: In August 2022, Congress passed an extension of the ITC, raising it to 30% for the installation of which was between 2022-2032. energy.gov/eere/renewable-energy</p> <p>For business: There are two tax credits available for businesses and other entities like nonprofits and local and tribal governments that purchase solar energy systems. Explore the investment tax credit (ITC) and the production tax credit (PTC) to see what's right for your business. energy.gov/eere/solar/federal-solar-tax-credits-businesses</p>
<p>Boulder County Rebate</p> 	<p>Boulder County residents can receive 25% of project costs, up to \$200, for projects that meet 50% of existing electricity consumption.</p>
<p>EnergySmart Low Interest Loans</p> 	<p>EnergySmart is connecting residents with low interest loans (as low as 2.75%) to help finance energy projects, including rooftop solar (in partnership with Clean Energy Federal Credit Union and Elevations Credit Union). EnergySmartColorado.org</p>
<p>National Energy Improvement Fund</p> 	<p>The National Energy Improvement Fund (NEIF) specializes in financing virtually any type of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and resilience project for commercial, non-profit, and municipal properties in partnership with Xcel Energy. my.xcelenergy.com/s/business/financing</p>

Legend:



Business Resource



Residential Resource

Don't Forget Efficiency! Xcel Energy has Resources to Save You Energy and Money.

One of the best ways to lower the upfront cost of renewable energy is to reduce the total amount of energy you consume. This could allow you to invest in a smaller solar panel system or cover more of your total energy use with the renewable energy you produce. Explore the below Xcel Energy resources to start saving energy and money.



Residential Resources

Home Energy Squad®

For just \$50, the Home Energy Squad will come to your home and install energy-efficient equipment. Installation, labor, and materials are FREE and valued at \$200! Schedule a visit at xcelenergy.com/HomeEnergySquad.

Home Rebates

Explore the different offers available for your home energy-efficiency upgrades and improvements at xcelenergy.com/Residential.



Business Resources

Energy Assessments

Xcel Energy's Business Energy Assessments can help you understand your business' energy use and provide energy efficiency opportunities that can help save on utility bills and maintenance costs.

All assessments include support from an energy advisor to help you to prioritize which operational and equipment improvements you can make to start saving today. Following the assessment, the energy advisor can help you move forward with energy saving projects by connecting you to financing options, rebates, and contractors.

Assessments from Xcel Energy are provided through CLEAResult. Get started at xcelenergy.com/EnergyAssessments or by calling 877-287-2250.

Business Rebates

Xcel Energy's rebates for energy efficient equipment help make the decision to upgrade easier by cutting your upfront costs. Rebates available on heating and cooling equipment, lighting, compressed air systems, ventilation and fan systems, motors and drives, monitoring and controls, computer equipment, data centers, and EV charging. Learn more at xcelenergy.com/Business.

