

Town Energy Committees Roundtable

Notes & Resources

3/8/22

What EVT Can Provide to Municipalities/Energy Committees

- Work with a municipality to do a free energy assessment of municipal buildings and water treatment facilities. This is not the same as an energy audit. The request must come from a town official (town manager, select board etc.). This applies to fire districts as well.
- Help municipalities identify projects and connect them with experts/contractors.
- Resources such as the Energy Burden Report which describes energy burden by town.
- Help with outreach campaigns to small businesses and residents
- EVT offers free energy savings kits to residents – Becca can send promotional postcards about how to sign-up for kits to Callie for distribution to towns.
- Virtual home energy visits
- Free business walkthroughs – energy committees can sign up as partners in a new small business campaign.

Questions and Group Discussion

- There was a question about the possibility of methane capture at wastewater treatment facilities. EVT does not work on this issue, but their umbrella organization, VEIC has experts in this area.
- The Town of Bennington captures methane at its wastewater treatment plant and uses it to power a generator at the plant. People can contact the town for more information.
- EVT Customer Service can help screen callers who are low-to-moderate income and refer them to other services like BROCC.
- Renters can get energy audits and weatherization work done but need landlord permission.
 - There is a company called 3E Thermal that does weatherization projects at multi-unit rentals.
 - Renters who meet income guidelines are eligible for weatherization assistance
 - The energy savings kit postcards could be a good way to reach renters and are easy efficiency improvements that could be made without landlord involvement.
- EVT plans to continue offering the DIY incentive for WindowDressers inserts through 2022 and is considering other ways to support WindowDressers in the future.
 - Organizations currently aren't eligible for the DIY rebate
- Interfaith Power & Light can provide funding for energy efficiency improvements to churches.
- Having a climate & energy column in the local newspaper or doing a regular video series through GNAT are possible ways for the committees to reach the public.
- Energy savings kit postcards could possibly be mailed out to residents with other town communications like water bills.
- Kudos to Arlington for passing two climate articles at Town Meeting Day!

Resources

[Vermont's Total Energy Burden by Town | Efficiency Vermont](#)

[Income-Based Assistance | Efficiency Vermont](#)

[Wx-Income-Guidelines.pdf \(vermont.gov\)](#)

[Supporting Low-Income Vermonters in Energy Efficiency and Weatherization - VECAN](#)

[GreenSavingSmart – An Overview of the New Statewide Financial & Energy Coaching Program - VECAN](#)

[VECAN 2022 Workshop Series - VECAN](#)