

# THE INNOVATOR

Denison Municipal Utilities

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## Residential ENERGY STAR Products Program



In July, Denison Municipal Utilities (DMU) will begin offering incentive payments to residential customers for purchasing certain Energy Star rated appliances. To qualify for the incentive payment the appliance must be purchased after January 1, 2009. A copy of the receipt must be provided to DMU and a request for an incentive payment must be completed. Following is a table showing the items that will qualify for the incentive payment and the amount of the incentive to be paid to the customer.

Technology	Efficiency Requirement	Incentive
Clothes Washer	ENERGY STAR	\$50
Dishwasher	ENERGY STAR	\$25
Dehumidifier	ENERGY STAR	\$10
Room Air Conditioner	ENERGY STAR	\$15
Holiday LED Lights	ENERGY STAR	\$3.50 per string

Certain HVAC Equipment will also qualify for incentive payments. DMU reserves the right to load manage the customer equipment that qualifies for incentives under this program.

Technology	Efficiency Requirement	Incentive
<b>NEW FURNACES – GAS OR ELECTRIC</b>		
High Efficiency Furnace (gas or electric) with ECM	Furnace with an electronically commutated motor (ECM)	\$150/Unit
<b>CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING UNITS</b>		
Central Air Conditioner ≤ 5 Tons	Split System, ENERGY STAR, 14.5 SEER Rating	\$100/Unit
<b>GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMPS</b>		
Groundsource Heat Pump Closed Loop	ENERGY STAR closed loop > 3.3 COP, 14.1 EER Maximum Incentive \$2,000	\$400/Ton
Groundsource Heat Pump Open Loop	ENERGY STAR open loop > 3.6 COP, 16.2 EER Maximum Incentive \$1,000	\$200/Ton
<b>AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS</b>		
Air-Source Heat Pump with indoor unit ECM	14.0 SEER, 8.2 HSPF, ECM	\$400
Air-Source Heat Pump – No ECM	14.0 SEER, 8.2 HSPF	\$250

If you would like more information regarding the Residential Energy Star Incentive program please contact Roger Bukacek at DMU or visit [www.brightenergysolutions.com](http://www.brightenergysolutions.com) Incentive forms will be available at DMU and local retail appliance stores.

## Weatherization Assistance Program

The Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program is expanding as a result of the stimulus package. The goal of the expansion is to weatherize one million homes per year. The stimulus bill extends the eligibility to families with incomes below 200 percent of the national poverty level. For a family of four, that's an income limit of \$44,100.

If you qualify for this program, you will receive a professional energy consultation with an analysis of energy bills, a blower-door test to locate air leaks, an evaluation of all combustion energy appliances and advice on how to live a more energy-efficient lifestyle. Workers will make energy upgrades such as insulating the attic and wall, sealing air leaks and installing a more efficient heating system.

Contact the local Community Action Agency for more information regarding the Weatherization Program at: 145 N 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Denison, IA 51442, 712-263-3538, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## Denison Municipal Utilities

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**We're on the  
Web!**  
[www.dmuonline.com](http://www.dmuonline.com)

Community owned  
electric, water, & sewer



DENISON MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

"Essentials For Life."

Were you one of our randomly picked customers that received a DMU Survey in the mail? If so, we want to THANK YOU for participating. We need to know how we can better serve you as a customer. A survey once a year is the best way we can contact you and hear your opinions about us.

Here are some of the survey results:

- \*\*81% Agree the Electric Rates at DMU are reasonable compared to other Utilities.**
- \*\*77% Agree DMU Water Rates are reasonable compared to other Utilities.**
- \*\*75% Agree DMU Wastewater Rates are reasonable compared to other Utilities.**
- \*\*93% Feel electric outages for reasons other than storms are minimal.**
- \*\*92% Agree the response time for DMU crews in an electric outage are within expected time frames.**
- \*\*82% Agree the response time for DMU crews for a water main break are within expected time frames.**
- \*\*48% Are aware DMU provides Overhead to Underground Conversion Incentives.**
- \*\*49% Aware of Bright Energy Solutions Rebate.**
- \*\*56% Agree DMU should add a communications utility to include cable TV, telephone and internet.**
- \*\*81% Know that DMU is NOT supported by City Tax dollars.**
- \*\*82% Understand the advantage of having service through a PUBLIC utility vs. a PRIVATE utility.**
- \*\*58% Have a personal computer at home with Internet access.**
- \*\*72% Are aware you can pay your bill with a credit or debit card.**
- \*\*79% Are aware that the option of equal monthly budget billing is available.**
- \*\*92% Agree hours and location of the billing office are convenient.**
- \*\*83% Are aware of the option of automatic payment of your utility bill from your checking account.**
- \*\*89% Agree billing questions and service requests are handled in a courteous manner.**
- \*\*92% Agree DMU has a positive, professional and progressive public image.**



## Energy-Saving Home Improvements May be Eligible for Income Tax Credits



Certain improvements to your existing principle residence, made during 2009 & 2010, may qualify for federal income tax credits. Tax credits in the following categories are available for 30 percent of the cost, up to a total credit of \$1,500:

- Insulation, caulk and weather stripping
- Doors, including patio and sliding glass units
- Central air conditioner
- Gas, oil or propane furnace or hot water boiler
- Non-solar water heater
- Windows, storm windows and skylights
- Roof – metal and reflective asphalt
- Air-source heat pump
- Advanced main air-circulating fan
- Biomass stove

Tax credits in the following categories are available for 30 percent of the cost, with no upper limit, through 2016 for an existing residence and new construction that may be, but does not have to be, your principle residence:

- Geothermal heat pump
- Solar panels
- Solar water heater
- Small wind energy system

Tax credits directly lower your federal income tax and generally are more valuable than tax deductions which lower your taxable income. To receive the tax credit, you must file IRS Form 5695, the Residential Energy Efficient Property Credit, with your other tax documents. You will need to keep receipts that prove you purchased the applicable products and energy-efficiency improvements, along with copies of the manufacturer's certifications.

There are many details through which you need to sort to determine if your project will qualify for an energy-efficiency tax credit. Before you start any project you think might qualify for an energy tax credit be sure to visit with your tax advisor.

Find out more information at the following websites by clicking on *Tax Credits*:

- ENERGY STAR: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)
- Tax Incentives Assistance Project: <http://energytaxincentives.org>
- Alliance to Save Energy: <http://www.ase.org>
- U.S. Department of Energy: [www.eere.energy.gov](http://www.eere.energy.gov)