

SYNERGY CENTRAL OREGON

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ENERGY TRUST OF OREGON

IRONHORSE LODGE RAISES THE BAR FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Pacific Crest Affordable Housing's new 26-unit housing complex in Prineville provides sustainable affordable housing to low-income seniors. IronHorse Lodge enrolled in Energy Trust of Oregon's Path to Net Zero offering to pursue becoming a net-zero energy use facility—a building that produces as much energy as it consumes over the course of a year.

The building's features include solar panels that produce energy for water heating and electricity, heating and cooling system upgrades and a tightly sealed shell. IronHorse uses 82 percent less energy than a typical multifamily building and 77 percent less energy than a building that meets minimum Oregon code.

"It's incredible," said Rob Roy, operating manager, Pacific Crest. "And it's all about the quality of life for our residents. People that have stable housing have a much better life and are much happier moving forward, and that's key to what we do. A building like this goes a long way to fulfilling that goal."



FOX HOLLOW RANCH PASSES SAVINGS TO THE NEXT GENERATION

Located in Oregon's high desert, Fox Hollow Ranch is a family business that produces carrot seed, bluegrass seed and peppermint oil. All 600 acres require irrigation, an arduous task until Energy Trust helped Fox Hollow replace three irrigation pumps with a single 125-horsepower pump with variable frequency drive. The new technology automatically adjusts pump speed to optimize pressure and water flow requirements, saving the ranch approximately \$6,700 in annual energy costs while also reducing water use.

Several years ago, the ranch received help to replace drains, gaskets, nozzles and leaking pipes, and schedule irrigation to optimize the frequency and duration of watering crops.

"Cutting energy and water costs has helped increase our income enough to support a second family at the ranch," said Nancy Richards, co-owner, Fox Hollow Ranch. "Our son's family has joined us and eventually will take over our growing business."



AFFORDABLE HOUSING AGENCY HELPS TENANTS SAVE BIG WITH ENERGY UPGRADES

To improve tenant comfort and reduce energy costs, Housing Works worked with Energy Trust to make energy upgrades that help its low-income tenants save about \$180 per unit a year on their utility bills.

Ariel Glen and Healy Heights, two multifamily affordable housing properties in Bend, completed energy-efficient equipment upgrades as part of a two-year project by Housing Works, Central Oregon's housing authority. Energy Trust provided cash incentives totaling \$56,000 to offset the upfront costs of energy-efficient equipment in each unit. Now tenants, many of them low-income families, enjoy a comfortable environment and pay less on their utility bills.



"Our collaboration with Energy Trust helped us upgrade these properties to more energy-efficient models which helps our low-income residents reduce utility costs," Keith Wooden, director of real estate and facilities, Housing Works.

FARMERS AND FISH WIN BIG WITH SMALL HYDROPOWER

Three Sisters Irrigation District capped a decade of investments in efficient irrigation with its new 700-kilowatt Watson Hydroelectric Facility. The hydropower system generates clean energy while saving energy, supporting agriculture, increasing drought resilience and bolstering local economies. The facility generates about 3.1 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually using pressure from recently installed irrigation pipes to generate renewable electricity, while delivering much-needed water to the district's farmers and maintaining flows in Whychus Creek.

The irrigation district increased the efficiency of its water delivery systems with help and support from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Deschutes River Conservancy, Energy Trust and many other stakeholders. By enclosing and installing more than 50 miles of pipe in 75 percent of its open canals, the district has been able to continue delivering irrigation water to farmers during historic drought conditions, even while improving stream flows for basin fish populations.



CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE BRIGHTENS ITS CAMPUS

Since 2006, Central Oregon Community College has worked with Energy Trust to complete 14 lighting upgrade projects across its campuses in Bend and Redmond, which now save more than \$55,000 annually.

Central Oregon Community College worked with Energy Trust to improve the classroom environment in Pioneer Hall and the campus bookstore on its Bend campus by upgrading to efficient lighting. Outside Pioneer Hall, the college upgraded exterior lights to give security staff better visibility at night and make students feel safer.

On the Redmond campus, lighting upgrades were made throughout four buildings, as well as parking lots and driveways. "When we're creating a schedule for lighting upgrades, safety is typically the most important factor," reported Ryan Stock, facilities maintenance manager, Central Oregon Community College. "Another benefit of LEDs is that they rarely need to be replaced. We also prioritize lights that are hard to get to, like the nine lights in the two-story library rotunda."



TRADE ALLY OF THE MONTH: SUNLIGHT SOLAR ENERGY, INC

Since 1997, Sunlight Solar Energy, Inc. has specialized in design, sales and installation of high-quality solar systems for homes and businesses throughout Oregon. With offices in Bend and Oregon City, Sunlight Solar Energy completes an average of 80 projects per year in Energy Trust service territory.

"We became a trade ally to take advantage of the incentives for our customers," said Kim Wilson, outreach director, Sunlight Solar Energy. "We were also trying to build our brand and promote the quality of our installations."

"When we work on a project, we stand behind it all the way through the process, from permitting and materials ordering to installation and inspection, which ensures efficiency and quality control," explained Wilson. After a solar installation is completed, staff help customers apply for any federal and state tax credits.



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