

SYNERGY SOUTHERN OREGON

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ENERGY TRUST OF OREGON

MEDFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT SAVES MONEY FOR WHAT MATTERS

In 2015, Medford became the first school district in Oregon to enroll in Energy Trust's commercial Strategic Energy Management initiative. District employees received training and tools over a 10-month period to learn how to track energy use at all of the district's 19 buildings. They used the data to change behavior and make no- or low-cost operations and maintenance improvements, helping to cut annual energy costs by another \$80,900. Almost half of the savings came from disconnecting computers and appliances during summer break.

"SEM is great for those who can't or aren't ready to do capital projects. You may not be able to afford a new chiller, but you can still save a lot by making low- and no-cost improvements," said Lief Hochendoner, resource conservation manager, Medford School District.

BIG SAVINGS FOR SMALL-TOWN GROCERY STORE

With the help of Energy Trust, Ruch Country Store in Jacksonville reduced energy costs, enhanced its appearance and improved comfort for customers. Owners of the grocery store invested in a custom heating and cooling project, new high performance T8 lighting, custom LED fixtures and lamps, and new LED case lighting. The store also installed horizontal night covers for its refrigerated cases to minimize energy waste and reduce the impact on heating and air conditioning systems.

Ruch Country Store received \$22,900 in Energy Trust cash incentives for the improvements, which are expected to save \$23,000 and more than 153,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

DOUGLAS COUNTY LOG HAULING SLASHES COSTS AND SAVES ENERGY

One of the largest log hauling companies in the Pacific Northwest, Ireland Trucking has met the demands of Southern Oregon's timber industry for 70 years. Now a 35-kilowatt solar electric system will help its Myrtle Creek-area headquarters meet that demand while cutting its energy use.

"Ireland Trucking has a long history of adopting advanced technology and practices to stay competitive in our industry," said Charles Ireland III, general manager, Ireland Trucking. "With help from Energy Trust, we are now able to utilize our own renewable energy."

The project received a \$32,701 cash incentive from Energy Trust, as well as U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Energy for America Program and Oregon Department of Energy Renewable Energy Development grants. With 124 solar panels installed on the roof of a truck maintenance shop, the system will produce about 30 percent of the energy needs at Ireland Trucking's headquarters.



ROGUE CREAMERY KEEPS COWS HAPPY AND ENERGY BILLS LOW

Rogue Creamery's award-winning Crater Lake Blue and Oregonzola cheeses begin in the barn with happy cows. The 80-year-old company teamed up with Energy Trust to bring energy-efficiency and renewable energy solutions to its 75-acre dairy farm, while also creating optimal living conditions for 120 grass-fed cows.

Rogue's barn has a polyethylene roof that brings in daylight, and LED lighting that automatically optimizes lighting levels, reducing annual energy costs by approximately \$14,600. Together these technologies make it feel like a perfect sunny day, contributing to contented cows and robust milk production. "The lighting provides comfort and safety for both cows and employees working during evening and early morning hours," said David Gremmels, owner of Rogue Creamery.

To further offset energy use, Rogue installed a 9.9-kilowatt solar system on the roof of the milking parlor, generating 11,000 kilowatt hours annually of clean energy to power a mechanized milking station.

GRANTS PASS AFFORDABLE HOUSING GETS AN UPGRADE

Residents of Jade East Apartments in Grants Pass are now warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer thanks to new ductless heat pumps that replaced baseboard heaters in its 30 units. In addition, energy bills and maintenance costs are significantly lower for the Housing Authority of Jackson County. The housing authority worked with MPower Oregon and Energy Trust to map out technical requirements, set up financing and manage construction resources.

"The residents are extremely satisfied with the new ductless heat pumps," said Christian Edelblute, director of maintenance, Housing Authority of Jackson County. "This project came to fruition more rapidly than we anticipated by using Energy Trust and MPower."

The housing authority also installed exterior LEDs, high-performance T8s and lighting controls. Jade East is estimated to reduce its energy consumption by 100,000 kilowatt hours a year—saving approximately \$7,500 annually.

COOS BAY NONPROFIT GETS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION FROM THE SUN

The Nancy Devereux Center installed a 21.6-kilowatt solar electric system that's expected to provide enough energy to cover 75 percent of its annual electrical needs, helping the nonprofit cut operating costs and expand services to the community.

The Coos Bay nonprofit provides support and services for homeless, veterans and local residents suffering from mental illness. "With the savings from this new solar array, we'll be able to invest more of our dollars into directly helping our community," said Tara Johnson, director, the Nancy Devereux Center. "Coupled with donations, these savings could help us reach our goals to expand services from three days a week to five."

The rooftop solar array was made possible by community donations, a cash incentive of \$21,196 from Energy Trust of Oregon and a grant from Pacific Power's Blue Sky™ customers.



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