

The Lake Street Energy Challenge

The Go-Guide for Success



We're counting on you to be part of our community's energy future as it takes shape. It will be easy when we all join our efforts through the Lake Street Energy Challenge.

Our residential goals are ambitious:

- Replace 1,000 incandescent light bulbs with high-efficiency, compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and light-emitting diodes (LEDs)
- Recycle 200 old, operating refrigerators
- Have 750 residents participate in the Home Energy Squad® program
- Work with local landlords to achieve electric and natural gas savings in 2016 through the new multi-family program provided by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy

We can make this happen. And, here are a few ways ...

Home Energy Squad – energy experts who make house calls

Did you know energy experts can come and work on your home to make it more efficient? That's the aim of the Home Energy Squad. They're kind of like the Geek Squad® for home energy efficiency, but they can help cut your energy bills.

For only \$70, these energy experts will recommend energy-saving ideas, plus they install energy efficiency measures such as compact fluorescent light bulbs, programmable thermostats, weather stripping and more. That's more than a \$200 value and you can be sure it will have lasting effects! Be sure to check for additional discounts from your city or neighborhood association.

The Home Energy Squad spends about two hours assessing your home's efficiency and making the energy-saving installations on the spot. So here's what you might expect:

- Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)
- Programmable thermostat
- Weather stripping for two exterior doors
- High-efficiency showerhead
- Kitchen and bathroom faucet aerators
- Water heater temperature assessment and adjustment
- Water heater insulation

Make a call for a visit by the Home Energy Squad today at **1-866-222-4595** or visit **homeenergysquad.net**.

Get Brighter About Lighting Efficiency

Lighting efficiency options are all around us, literally! Savings from upgrading your current incandescent bulbs for LED and CFL bulbs can really add up. Today these come in a variety of shapes and sizes to fit virtually all types of fixtures. They include floods, globes, dimmable bulbs and three-way lamps. And don't forget about those outside lights.

Why our households are making the switch: While there is not a ban on any specific light bulb type, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 stipulates that bulbs sold in the U.S. must use at least 30% less energy by 2014. The good news: Residential (LED) light-emitting diode can use 80% less energy and can last up to 25 years. Another option is CFLs. They're inexpensive, usually spread their light more broadly like a traditional lights, and provide a much better quality of light than you may expect from the old-fashioned, tube-style fluorescents. To maximize your budget and best suit your household lighting needs, you may want to mix some of each.

By converting to more efficient lighting like these options, you'll see immediate results on your energy bill. Replace the bulbs in the lights you use most often to maximize your savings. And don't forget to consider your outside lights, too.

Throughout the year, Xcel Energy partners with local retailers to provide a discount for the purchase of CFLs or LEDs at these participating retailers. Get CFLs for as little as \$1 each, and save up to \$5 on select models of LEDs. For a full list of all discount retail locations, or to check out what lights are available to purchase, visit xcelenergy.com/LightingDeals.

Take the Load Off, Lose that Old Refrigerator

Got an old refrigerator or freezer running in your basement or garage? It's probably costing more than you think. So why not part with that old energy hog. And remember, refrigerators and freezers contain refrigerants, oils and other compounds that, by federal law, must be removed and recovered. So why not consider recycling your working refrigerator or freezer for free? Xcel Energy will pick it up and recycle it for you. On top of that convenient offer, you can also earn a \$50 cash rebate, plus you will receive two CFLs just for letting us make the effort.

How to get started – Visit xcelenergy.com/Fridge. Schedule your free pickup between March 1 and October 31.

Go Solar, Without the Panels

The concept of community solar gardens are making headlines, and for good reason. Clean energy is one way we can collectively protect the environment and solar is a smart way to put renewable energy within your reach.

How can you be part of the solar power movement if you live in an apartment or your roof just isn't right for solar? Joining a community solar garden offers an ideal option. They are a centrally-located photovoltaic systems designed to provide renewable energy to a group of subscribers who own or lease a portion of the system. The energy is sold to the utility (Xcel Energy) and financial credit is given to each subscriber for the energy generated from their portion of the garden.

To get more information on how community solar gardens work and some basic facts to help you decide if this is a good option for you, visit xcelenergy.com/Solar or cleanenergyresourceteams.org/solargardens.

Local retail partners as of September 2015	
BATTERIES PLUS	5717 EXCELSIOR BLVD, ST LOUIS PARK, MN 55416
COSTCO	5801 W 16TH ST ST LOUIS PARK, MN 55416
HOME DEPOT	1520 NEW BRIGHTON BLVD MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55413
	5800 CEDAR LAKE RD ST LOUIS PARK, MN 55416
MENARDS	5351 CENTRAL AVE NE FRIDLEY, MN 55421
TARGET	900 NICOLLET MALL MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403
	1650 NEW BRIGHTON BLVD MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55413
	1650 NEW BRIGHTON BLVD MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55413
	2500 E LAKE ST MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55406
	3601 HWY 100 S ST LOUIS PARK, MN 55416
	755 53RD AVE NE FRIDLEY, MN 55421

Get to Know Your Energy Use

Put yourself in control by managing your energy for your home! Check out your energy usage by setting up access to your electric account in My Account, Xcel Energy's online account management dashboard and your natural gas account in My Account Online, CenterPoint Energy's online account management. When you register, you will get a personalized summary of your information, including the ability to track your own usage history, product/program offers, energy efficiency tips and more. You can also use My Account to pay your Xcel Energy bills online!

Test it out. Review your electric use before you take efficiency measures like upgrading your lighting or adjusting your air conditioning, then see the savings through the tracking data on My Account.

My Account is completely secure, so you're the only one to see your progress to energy efficiency. To enroll you'll need your statement and an email address.

Enroll today at xcelenergy.com/MyAccount.



Learn More!
mcwsustainability.org

