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# ENERGY STAR

## The Town of Glastonbury

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## INTRODUCTION

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Power plants in the United States generated over four trillion kWh of electricity last year. Over 35% of that was used to heat, cool, light and power equipment in commercial buildings. That proportion is projected to increase in the future. Energy costs continue to climb faster than the inflation rate and consume larger percentages of budgets. Control of energy consumption and costs is a high Town priority.

# TOWN HALL RECOGNIZED FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY ... AGAIN!

Glastonbury was recently notified that its Town Hall located at 2155 Main Street was awarded the US Environmental Protection Agency's coveted *Energy Star* rating for the second successive year. First recognized for energy efficiency in 2007, the Town Hall is one of only 10 office buildings in the State of Connecticut qualifying for the EPA's *Energy Star* rating for 2008.

In announcing the award to the Town, Jean M. Lupinacci, Director of Energy

environment."

energy ENERGY STAR

Star's Commercial and Industrial Branch, wrote, "The ENERGY STAR is the mark of superior energy performance and identifies your building as one the most efficient buildings in the nation. By taking this important step along the path to energy efficiency, you are not only saving money – you are preventing the release of greenhouse gases and protecting the

Some of the recent initiatives that have contributed to the energy efficiency of the building include:

- relamping fluorescent fixtures in the Town Hall with higher efficiency, low mercury fluorescent tubes and replacing incandescent lights with compact fluorescent lights. This change-out will reduce annual electrical use and also reduce the amount of mercury introduced into our buildings and our environment.
- installing vending miser sensors on cold drink vending machines to reduce energy consumption by those machines during periods of no occupancy.
- implementing energy-saving software on Town computers to reduce the demand for power when computers are on but not in use. Town



employees have been instructed to ensure computers, printers and other peripherals are shut off during evenings, weekends, and holiday and vacation periods.

Future initiatives the Town is pursuing to further improve on energy efficiency of not only the Town Hall but other Town buildings include:

- 🦻 replacing pump and fan motors in Town buildings with higher efficiency units;
- upgrading energy management system controls to provide more efficiency and control; and
- installing infrared heaters in Fire Department apparatus bays to reduce natural gas consumption.

Town facility managers use the US EPA's *Energy Star* system to record, manage and benchmark energy usage in all major Town buildings. They also work closely with building occupants, consultants and utility suppliers in order to identify, evaluate and implement energy efficiency measures throughout Town facilities.

The Town continues to research and evaluate other technology applications that make sense for our Town facilities. Technologies that have been or are currently being evaluated include fuel cells, photovoltaic systems, microturbines and other cogeneration systems. Additionally, the Town Hall and Police Department buildings are included in the local demand response program whereby the Town has agreed to run the buildings' emergency generators to reduce demand on the electrical grid during peak demand times.

# GLASTONBURY'S GREEN INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Glastonbury's Green Initiatives program operates under the direction of the Town Manager. The committee is chaired by the Purchasing Agent and the Superintendent of Sanitation. Committee members from across Town departments participate and contribute ideas and suggestions committed to a "greener" community.

The committee assembles information about products and services and makes the information available to specific departments that can evaluate them and develop applications in Town projects with the approval of the Town Manager.

These "Go-Green" bulletins contain information about the results of product evaluations and other accomplishments of Town departments. We hope this information can provide you insight to the Town's green initiatives and also lead others in the community to find ways to use environmentally preferable products. Please contact us if we can help you with further information or if you have additional suggestions.



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