



## The City of Portland: Setting a Standard for Energy Efficiency

A new report from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy ranks the City of Portland 2 out of 34 of the largest cities in America on their **City Energy Efficiency Scorecard**.

The City achieved this second place ranking by setting goals for reducing energy use in local government operations, promoting community initiatives that reduce energy, and closely monitoring the City's energy use to demonstrate results.

### Local Government Operations

From an operations standpoint, OMF has played a key role in encouraging energy-saving methods throughout the City, such as promoting energy efficient vehicles, tracking utility usage within City-owned buildings, and implementing energy-saving technologies. Over the last 20 years, the City of Portland has participated in the **City Energy Challenge**, which has helped us document our various energy initiatives and projects. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) calculates that those energy reduction efforts currently save about \$5.5 million annually, with cumulative savings of \$42 million since the challenge began in 1991. **Read highlights** of bureau energy projects and initiatives throughout the City.



### Community Initiatives

At the City of Portland, BPS promotes energy efficiency and renewable power production through a variety of their **residential, commercial, and government initiatives**. One recent community initiative is **Solar Forward**, which is the City's first crowdsourcing solar project launched this fall. This pilot project encourages neighbors to contribute small donations towards establishing a revolving community solar fund that pays for shared resources, such as solar panels on a community center.

### At Home

You can also take part in energy conservation within your own home. Not only is it good for the environment, but it can save you money too. According to the **Alliance to Save Energy**, the average American household spends \$5,550 a year on energy-related costs. Making informed decisions in your everyday life can make a big impact.

- Buying ENERGY STAR appliances can save up to 30% on electricity bills.
- Replacing incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient halogens or LEDs can save 30-80%.
- Washing clothes in cold water can save \$60 on average annually.

Learn more ways to bring energy efficiency into your home by visiting **Clean Energy Works Oregon**.

