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Energy and cost-savings programs



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BOULDER

The ClimateSmart program and Center for ReSource Conservation (CRC) are helping residents in Boulder County communities obtain rebates, tax credits and low-cost financing, when they make their homes more energy efficient.

The ClimateSmart program and CRC are the primary sources of information for the Residential Energy Action Program (REAP). J.C. Martel, Energy Efficiency Program Manager for the CRC explains, "There are a variety of programs that will assist homeowners to improve their home's energy efficiency. Homeowners just need to make one call to 303-999-3824 ext. 224 to learn about all of the programs rebates and tax credits available." Also, through the Insulate Colorado program, the Governor's office is offering assistance to those who qualify. This, too, is being administered through the CRC.

Dr. Carolyn Smiley-Marquez from Longmont called the CRC and received very helpful information. She said, "With just one phone call, the folks at CRC explained everything to me and made it very simple to get started. I learned all about the rebates and tax credits. I look forward to a warmer home this winter thanks to them."

Susie Strife, Sustainability Education Specialist at Boulder County acknowledges, "We are aware that many people want to save money, reduce their energy consumption and increase the comfort of their homes. The programs being offered through ClimateSmart and the Residential Energy Action Program do exactly that."

A new program currently being offered is the Boulder County Energy Corps. The Energy Corps is a highly trained team that helps homeowners make the adjustments needed to save energy and money. This group visits Boulder County residences s on Saturdays from now until the end of March 2010 to conduct a two-hour energy assessment. During that assessment, they will install compact fluorescent light bulbs, programmable thermostats and low-flow showerheads while educating homeowners on other ways to save energy.

The Energy Corps is scheduling these audit activities through neighborhood associations.

In addition to calling the REAP phone line, homeowners can find energy saving tips at the ClimateSmart website, beclimatesmart.com. or email nrg@conservationcenter.org.

The Insulate Colorado Program is a collaborative effort among ClimateSmart, the Center for ReSource Conservation, the Governor's Energy Office, Xcel Energy, and local governments of Boulder County.



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