

Your Energy Connection



July 2014

FREE Energy Audits Help You Save Money!

Reducing the amount of energy used in your home leads to lower energy costs and lower utility bills. The City of Rocky Mount can help you learn ways to save energy in your home through the **Energy Audit** program. Energy audits are **FREE** for all Rocky Mount Public Utilities (RMPU) customers.

During an energy audit, trained auditors perform a series of steps to show you how energy is used in your home and how to reduce your energy consumption.



Customer Survey

Before the audit, the auditors will review your 12-month billing history to see your monthly energy usage. On the day of the audit, the auditors will begin by asking you a series of questions about your home's efficiency and your energy usage. To see the list of questions the auditors will ask, visit www.rockymountnc.gov/energyaudit.html.



Walk-Through of the Home

After the energy auditors have assessed the household energy usage habits, they will perform a walk-through of the home, which includes the attic, crawl space, and interior of the home. The auditors will look for potential energy savings in electricity, natural gas, water and sewer usage and potential electrical safety hazards.



Water Heater Temperature

Part of the walk-through of the home includes testing the temperature of the water at each sink to gauge the water heater's temperature settings. The recommended temperature setting is 120° for the most energy savings. If the temperature is set too high, the auditors will adjust the settings at the customer's request.



Attic Insulation

If the home's attic is accessible to the auditors, they will measure the insulation to determine if it meets the current building code standards for energy efficiency. Insulation is rated in terms of its thermal resistance or R-value. The higher the R-value of the insulation, the greater its effectiveness. The recommended minimum code for Nash County is R-38 (12") and R-30 (10") for Edgecombe County.



Free Energy Kit

To help you jumpstart your energy savings, the energy auditors will present you with a complimentary Energy Kit during your audit. The Energy Kit includes four compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), a low flow shower head, a can of insulating foam sealant, an air filter whistle, a hot water gauge, a refrigerator thermometer, a portable thermometer, and a DVD with tips on how to use these items.



Personal Energy Profile Report

After your energy audit, you will receive a Personal Energy Profile Report by mail. The report shows the breakdown of energy usage in your home and includes suggestions for saving energy that are specific to your home and lifestyle.



Schedule your Energy Audit today!

Call Customer Service at (252) 972-1250, visit www.rockymountnc.gov/energyaudit.html or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Energy Audit appointments are available at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday through Friday each week and one Saturday per month.

E-newsletter available

Would you like to receive *Your Energy Connection* newsletter by email? Visit www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/communications.html or email energyspecialist@rockymountnc.gov to subscribe.

Use your smartphone to scan the QR code for quick access to the website. Free QR-code readers are available for download from your app store.



Load Management

Through the Load Management Program, RMPU electric customers can **earn up to \$129 per year** in credits on their utility bill by having load management switches installed on one or more appliances:

- Electric Water Heater: \$2.00 credit per month
- Electric Heat Strips: \$15.00 credit per month during three months of winter
- Central Air Conditioner: \$20.00 credit per month during three months of summer

There is no fee for the switches or installation.

For information or to enroll:

(252) 467-4803

www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/loadmanagement.html



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Renewable Energy Policy

The City of Rocky Mount implemented the Renewable Energy Policy in 2008 to establish a plan for purchasing power from customers who wish to generate their own power from renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass. New and existing electric customers can install up to 10 kilowatts (KW) for residential projects and up to 100 KW for commercial projects.

For more information about this policy, please visit www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/programs.html#rep.



Energy Share

Energy Share is a weatherization rebate program for RMPU residential electric and natural gas customers, including homeowners and renters. Energy Share helps customers lower heating and cooling costs in the home.

Through Energy Share, customers can receive a cash rebate of up to \$500 for work related to attic weatherization (e.g. insulation) and/or up to \$500 for a replacement HVAC system.

There are no income regulations with this program, however funding is limited. Customers must complete all program requirements before receiving reimbursement funds.

For information or to apply:

(252) 972-1102

www.rockymountnc.gov/energysshare.html



Outdoor Electrical Safety

Enjoy the season and remember to be SAFE around electricity this summer!

- Never locate a swimming pool under power lines.
- Do not use electronic devices in or around water.
- Never touch anything electrical with wet hands.
- Never spray power lines or electrical boxes with hoses or water guns.
- Do not swim around boat docks. The water near them could have an electric charge.
- Keep fans away from children.

