Summer 2023 Newsletter

The summer of energy efficiency is here -- learn about opportunities to save money & be more efficient!

THRIVING BUILDINGS

Office of Sustainability Hosted Three Instructional "Data Jams" this spring!

The Office of Sustainability (OOS) hosted three Data Jams in: March, April, and May. These Data Jams are a way for building owners and managers to learn about the Thriving Buildings Benchmarking and Transparency Program and learn how to use ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager. The American Institute of Architects Indiana chapter's sustainability committee volunteered with the OOS to help facilitate these events and answer questions for those attending.

Participants learned how to set up their ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager accounts, enter energy and water data, and share data with the city. Participants were also able to learn about the background of Thriving Buildings and network with other Thriving Buildings participants.

Three more Data Jams will happen in the spring of 2024!

Thriving Buildings Participants to Receive Energy Audits from Industrial Assessment Center

Participants of this years Thriving Buildings energy and water benchmarking program have the opportunity to receive a free energy audit. Ten participants were contacted about this opportunity from partners at the Industrial Assessment Center at Purdue University Indianapolis. Funded by the United States Department of Energy, these energy audits allow building owners and managers to see what opportunities they have for energy efficiency in their buildings.

Experts will examine the 2022 utility data entered into ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and tour buildings selected by the participants. On these tours, experts will explore opportunities for energy efficiency in the buildings. Upon completing their tour, experts will provide building owners with recommendations on energy efficiency opportunities, associated costs and recommend contractors to implement changes.

These energy audits will be completely free of charge to building owners, as funding is covered by the DOE. Thriving Building participants are encouraged to check for emails from the Office of Sustainability to see if they can take advantage of this great opportunity for energy efficiency.

![Better Buildings — U.S. Department of Energy]

Upcoming Energy Efficiency Webinars:

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting two free webinars related to energy efficiency measures that buildings can implement.

On August 17, at 11 AM EST, the DOE will be covering HVAC equipment technology options that can lead to energy savings of 10-20%. Participants will have the opportunity to hear directly from building owners sharing their own successes in implementing HVAC technology to save energy.

Improved HVAC technology can lead to increased comfort, improved building sustainability, and reduced energy costs. Webinars attendees can learn about grid interactive building controls, improving air quality, data collection and visualization, and more.

On August 22 at 11 AM EST, the DOE will be covering the Building Envelope Campaign and success stories of buildings that have successfully implemented a high performance building envelope. A building's envelope is the part of the building that separates the indoors from the outdoors—walls, foundations, roofs, window, etc.

Implementing changes in these areas are some of the most effective ways to reduce the energy needs of buildings. The DOE's Building Envelope Campaign connects building owners with resources and information, technical expertise, and helps building owners stay informed on innovative tehcnologies. Successful buildings can even be recognized by the DOE through various awards.

Helpful Info and Links

Recordings of Past Energy Star Webinars

Green Lease Guide for Landlords Interested In Sustainability

Checklist of Energy Savings Measures

Energy Star Building Upgrade Manual Guide

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Thriving Buildings Webpage

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