

Energy Efficiency Checklist

Benchmark your building.



Upgrade lighting. If every lightbulb in your building hasn't already been converted to LED with occupancy and daylight sensors, then you're missing out on big energy savings!



- Return: 1-3 year payback, usually on the shorter side of that range.
- Cost: Xcel Energy rebates are available for a wide range of lighting projects and applications. For limited-time offers, visit the Xcel [Lighting Efficiency webpage](#).

Tune-up your building (recommissioning). Improve the efficiency of your current building operations by tuning up existing systems to run as efficiently as possible, through identification and implementation of low- or no-cost improvements. 16% energy savings realized on average.



- Return: Payback ranges from 0.2-2.2 years, with an average of 1.3 years. Typical recommended measures include Equipment Scheduling, Optimizing Airside Economizer, Demand Control Ventilation, Temperature Reset Strategies, and more.
- Cost: Xcel Energy will pay up to 75% of the cost of a Recommissioning study, not to exceed \$25,000. Rebates can then cover up to 60 percent of implementation cost. To get started, visit the Xcel [Recommissioning webpage](#).

Train Staff and Educate Occupants. Improve the efficiency of your building operations by educating those who live and work within it. Knowing when systems, lights etc. should be on/off is an easy way to ensure optimal energy performance. The EPA also provides guidelines on how to find and eliminate energy waste in your building, [Learn more](#).

- Return: Payback ranges from 0-1 year. Typical recommended measures include lighting strategies, building operation schedule, plug load operation, and more.
- Cost: Cost is minimal, mainly a time investment.



Upgrade other systems. If you're looking to do even more, below are additional improvements and estimated payback ranges:



3 – 15 Year Payback	15 + Year Payback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Controls upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Variable Frequency Drives on motors ○ Upgrade Pneumatic to Electronic (DDC) controls <input type="checkbox"/> HVAC System Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High Efficiency Boiler, Chiller/AC, Air Handling Unit replacement ○ High-Efficiency Motors and drives ○ Optimized Motor Sizing ○ Heat Pumps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Windows <input type="checkbox"/> Insulation <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Source Heat Pumps (Geothermal) <input type="checkbox"/> Cool Roofs / Vegetated Roofs

- **Get an energy audit.** An energy audit will give you a detailed personalized report on energy conservation opportunities, cost, savings, payback period, and available Xcel Energy rebates.
 - ASHRAE Level 1 Audit – Start here if you’re looking for personalized first steps on how to improve your building’s energy efficiency. Less precise than a level 2 audit.
 - Cost: Xcel Energy offers [onsite energy audits](#). Participants are responsible for paying a small fee per audit based on building size. ***If your building is under 50,000 square feet, Xcel is currently offering free level 1 Audits.*** To get started, call the Xcel Energy Business Solutions Center at 855-839-8862. Click [here](#) for a sample report.
 - Apartments and Condos: Xcel’s Multifamily Building Efficiency program includes an energy assessment and free direct installation of energy-saving products. To get started, download the [Participation Form](#) or call **855.451.4467**.
 - ASHRAE Level 2 Audit – detailed, precise analysis of your building. If you plan on making significant improvements, this is for you!
 - Cost: ~\$0.20 per square foot, less for larger buildings. Choose your own provider.

- **Consider financing options.**
 - PACE is a voluntary program that provides financing, up to a 20 year term, that is repaid through a special assessment on the property. The lien automatically transfers to the new owner when the property is sold (like a sewer tax). PACE financing requires no down payment, provides immediate positive cash flow from energy cost savings, and increases building asset value. Major capital improvements like HVAC upgrades and/or window replacement can be financed. copace.com

For more information, visit the Resource Center at www.denvergov.org/EnergizeDenver

Or, for advice on how to get started, call our Benchmarking Help Center 8am-5pm: 1-844-536-4528 or EnergizeDenver@denvergov.org