

History of the Energy Challenge Awards Program

Facing increasing energy costs, and recognizing that burning fossil fuels increases air pollution, adversely affects public health, and contributes to global warming, Ann Arbor City Council passed an Energy Challenge resolution in 2006, calling for the City to use 30% renewable energy in its municipal operations by 2010 and 20% community-wide by 2015. The resolution also calls for community-wide greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced 20% from 2000 levels by 2015.

As one means of meeting the Energy Challenge, Council directed staff to work with the Energy Commission to create a program to honor local projects that achieve high levels of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The Energy Challenge Award Program will be presented annually at a March event. The Ann Arbor Energy Commission will evaluate award submittals, and select winners for two levels of recognition: Leaders and Pioneers.



About the Energy Commission

In 1981, Mayor Louis Belcher created the Mayor's Energy Advisory Board, which became the Energy Commission in 1985 and was charged to:

- Oversee energy-related City policies and advise City Council;
- Report on recommendations to improve municipal and community energy efficiency;
- Prepare, adopt, amend and transmit to City Council plans identifying municipal and community-based energy efficiency and production projects;
- Research, formulate, and oversee community education programs; and
- Identify and make recommendations regarding energy project financing options.

In 2006, Mayor John Hieftje challenged the Energy Commission to come up with a strategy to move Ann Arbor into a renewable energy future.

To Learn More about the Energy Challenge:

Visit www.a2gov.org/energy or contact the Energy Office at (734) 996-3150 or energy@a2gov.org

Energy Challenge Awards Program



Recognizing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Excellence in Ann Arbor Businesses

Brought to you by the Ann Arbor Energy Commission and Ann Arbor Energy Office



About the Energy Challenge Awards

As part of the plan to meet the Ann Arbor Energy Challenge, the Energy Challenge Awards Program (ECAP) *recognizes community businesses that have built or renovated to a high standard of energy performance for their buildings.*



Installing solar on UM's Dana Building

These buildings will serve as examples of how energy efficiency and renewable energy can be incorporated into buildings in Ann Arbor to reduce their overall energy needs, thereby reducing operating costs, global warming emissions and pollution associated with energy use. Awards are offered in two categories: (1) Renewable Energy and (2) Energy Efficiency with two tiers of recognition for each award:

	Energy Efficiency	Renewable Energy
Leader	Commissioning of energy systems AND 50% energy use reduction (35% for renovations)	50% renewable energy use
Pioneer	Same as above, PLUS demonstrate an exceptional commitment to energy efficiency	Same as above, PLUS demonstrate an exceptional commitment to renewable energy

Why Apply?

Energy Challenge Award winners set the standard for smart energy practices, and serve as community leaders and benchmarks for future development. Businesses that earn an Energy Challenge Award will receive an eco-friendly commemorative plaque to display proudly in their building. Displaying an Energy Challenge Award will demonstrate your business's efforts to increase energy efficiency and renewable energy use, and reduce global warming emissions.

In addition to the commemorative wall plaque, Award recipients will be featured in press releases distributed to local newspapers and magazines, as well as publicized on the City's website.

Award Eligibility

The Energy Challenge Awards Program is open to commercial projects that promote energy efficiency and/or renewable energy in the City of Ann Arbor—including new construction, renovations, retrofits, and behavior change. Awards are offered for projects completed in the last three years.

Award Notification and Recognition

Applicants will be notified of the status of their application in March. Awards are presented on an annual basis, with an awards ceremony to be held each spring.

How to Apply

Completed applications for both the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Awards are due to the Ann Arbor Energy Office by **January 21, 2008**. Applications are available at www.a2gov.org/energy or at City Hall.

Additional Information

Additional information regarding the Energy Challenge Awards, including an application packet, submittal instructions, and a list of frequently asked questions, is available online at www.a2gov.org/energy.



Solar hot water panels on Ann Arbor Fire Station #1

Acknowledgements

The Energy Challenge Awards Program was inspired in part by the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Rating System. Other award programs around the country that influenced the Energy Challenge Awards Program include the Chicago Standard and GreenWorks Awards, the CNU Charter Awards, and the Portland BEST Awards.