CERTs 2018 Seed Grant Recipients



Southeast Region

City of Faribault:

Promoting Solar PV on City and School Facilities

Faribault, MN - Faribault recently adopted an Energy Action Plan that identifies cost-effective strategies to conserve energy and use clean energy. An objective of the Plan is to use prominent buildings as models for clean and efficient energy. This project involves development of an action-oriented Solar PV Master Plan that will provide the impetus to implement solar PV at key City and school sites in Faribault. It will also serve as a model that will inspire similar actions in other public and private facilities throughout the community. (\$3,500)



Albert Lea, MN - The City of Albert Lea seeks to understand the feasibility of solar energy for all primary government buildings located within the City. This effort will, for all subject City and County facilities: (1) collect annual energy use data, calculate EUI and performance evaluation against ENERGY STAR/ B3 peers; (2) evaluate the viability of solar PV; (3) develop a detailed solar PV concept design, calculate annual energy generation possible, and develop preliminary project budgets; (4) develop a project report summarizing all findings, identifying local economic development potential of solar PV development, and include a proposed solar implementation plan for City owned facilities. (\$3,500)

Benike Construction: Creating an Energy Efficient Castle Community

Rochester, MN - A group of private investors is purchasing the former armory building from the City of Rochester and planning an adaptive reuse of this historic structure. The "Castle Community" (as the development is named) will incorporate a restaurant, bookstore, art gallery, art studios, and public commons space into the renovation project. The scope of the renovation will be limited to an estimated \$1,200,000, however the owners are interested in making sound energy-conscious design decisions. The Seed Grant will help defray the expense of hiring either a third party energy modeler or expanding the scope of services of the mechanical designer to assist with energy efficiency decisions and recommendations. (\$1,500)

Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light: Rochester Faith & Solar Coalition

Rochester, MN - MNIPL has expanded its presence in recent years by building regional networks in the northern (Duluth) and southeastern (St. Peter) parts of Minnesota. These networks have focused on accelerating adoption of solar power, especially within faith communities. We are seeking a grant to support a bid to build a similar coalition in Rochester. We began laying groundwork for the Rochester Faith & Solar Coalition in fall 2017 with a kickoff that attracted almost 30 participants from several groups. We will continue raising awareness and assisting faith organizations in navigating the decision-making process for rooftop solar or communitybased solar in 2018. (\$3,500)





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City of Red Wing: Demonstration Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Red Wing, MN - The City of Red Wing will install a demonstration twin plug EV charging station within a public parking ramp. This will serve 4 parking spaces and will fill a gap in the EV charging infrastructure map along the southeast corridor. (\$2,000)



City of Whalan: New LED Street Lights

Whalan, MN - Our small city is very unique to southeast Minnesota. It's defined not only by the individuals who call it home but also by the visitors who enjoy a stroll through our city by use of the Minnesota DNR bike trail system, city events, or staying for the weekend at one of our local bed and breakfasts. We only have 29 street lights in the entire city, but they are outdated, consume a lot of energy, and are expensive to keep up every year. This project will allow us to replace them with energy-efficient LEDs. (\$1,000)

City of La Crescent: Public Facilities LED Lighting Upgrade

La Crescent, MN - The City of La Crescent Green Team/Green Step Program plans to upgrade 22 inefficient outdated exterior light fixtures to new LED lighting technology; the LED lighting improvements will be made to local parks, streets, and the water plant. The Green Team will also conduct educational activities that demonstrate how LED technology/lighting replacement can reduce energy consumption and maintenance costs. (\$1,500)

Minnesota State College Southeast: Winona Area Weatherization Installers Pool

Winona, MN - Minnesota State College Southeast will gain the skills necessary to incorporate Building Performance Institute (BPI) Air Leakage Control (ALC) Installer training into its curriculum; local contractors will also receive ALC training through the grant. Currently there are no BPI ALC certified contractors in the Winona area, which may stop residents from utilizing some utility rebates. (\$3,500)



