



Grants for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Awarded to 39 Projects Across Minnesota

Community-focused clean energy efforts will take shape throughout 2018

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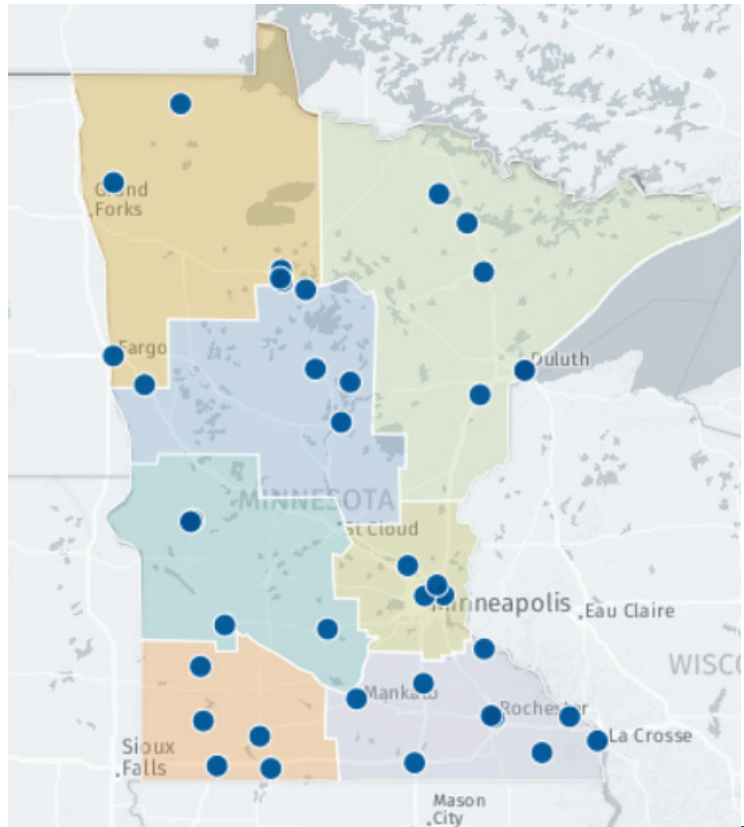
Media Contact: Dan Thiede
CERTs Communications and Director
612-626-0556 or thie0235@umn.edu

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 – It is an energizing start to 2018 for communities across Minnesota. The state’s Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) are awarding Seed Grants to 39 innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in communities from Worthington to Warren to Whalan, and from Leech Lake to Crosslake to Granite Falls.

The 39 projects received funding across a broad spectrum of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. Many projects also include components of education, outreach, community building, and research. These awards mark the ninth round of Seed Grants from the group, totalling over \$1 million to 300 projects since 2006.

“CERTs provides these Seed Grants with two primary objectives in mind. First, to encourage implementation of community-based clean energy projects across the state. Second, to provide an educational forum for energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and their economic, community, and ecological benefits,” says Lissa Pawlisch, CERTs Director. Project funding will put Minnesotans to work throughout 2018 by supporting technical assistance and labor services.

The 39 projects receiving grants are getting to work now in their communities and their efforts will be completed in the next year. A complete list of funded projects by region with grant amounts and map of projects with grantee contact info can be accessed at <http://mncerts.org/2018grants>.



This map shows the CERTs 2018 Seed Grant recipients who will work on clean energy projects in their communities this year

CERTs 2018 Seed Grants by Region

CENTRAL REGION

- RREAL: Making Solar Accessible for Habitat for Humanity Households - Backus, MN
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe: Leech Lake Solar Master Plan - Cass Lake, MN
- Discovery Woods School, ISD 4198: LED Lighting for Library - Brainerd, MN
- Crosslake Lutheran Church: Solar Stewardship: Rooftop Solar PV Install - Crosslake, MN

METRO REGION

- Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA): Solarize Twin Cities - Minneapolis, MN
- Journey Home MN: Veterans Village at Station 1 - North Oaks, MN
- Connexus Energy: Municipal Fleet Vehicle Analysis for EV Adoption - Ramsey, MN
- City of Maplewood: Renewable Energy for Energize Maplewood! - Maplewood, MN

NORTHEAST REGION

- City of Mountain Iron: Renewable Mountain Iron Solar Assessment - Mountain Iron, MN
- North Woods School: Solar Powered Trail Lighting - Cook, MN
- Ecolibrium3: Healthy Homes – Healthy Neighbors Initiative - Duluth, MN
- Ecolibrium3: AmeriCorps Legacy Building Solar Project - Duluth, MN
- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa: Bois Forte Weatherization Project - Nett Lake, MN
- Salem Lutheran Church: LED Lighting Conversion - Mahtowa, MN

NORTHWEST REGION

- City of Warren: Benchmarking for Public Buildings - Warren, MN
- BI-County Community Action, Inc: Low-Income Weatherization Project - Bemidji, MN
- City of Barnesville Municipal Utility: Barnesville Community Solar Garden - Barnesville, MN
- Bemidji Community Food Shelf: Food Shelf Lighting Upgrade - Bemidji, MN
- Moorhead Public Service: Downtown Community Geothermal System Pilot Project - Moorhead, MN
- Northwest Community Action: Office Building LED Lighting Project - Badger, MN
- Harmony Natural Food Cooperative: Food Coop Lighting Upgrade - Bemidji, MN

SOUTHEAST REGION

- City of Faribault: Promoting Solar PV on City and School Facilities - Faribault, MN
- City of Albert Lea: Solar Ready Albert Lea - Albert Lea, MN
- Benike Construction: Creating an Energy Efficient Castle Community - Rochester, MN
- Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light: Rochester Faith & Solar Coalition - Rochester, MN
- City of Red Wing: Demonstration Electric Vehicle Charging Station - Red Wing, MN
- City of Whalan: New LED Street Lights - Whalan, MN
- City of La Crescent: Public Facilities LED Lighting Upgrade - La Crescent, MN
- Minnesota State College Southeast: Winona Area Weatherization Installers Pool - Winona, MN

SOUTHWEST REGION

- City of Windom: Solar-Powered Welcome Signs - Windom, MN
- UCAP: In Home Education Course and Energy Saving Applications - Marshall, MN
- Federated Rural Electric: LED Lighting Upgrade - Jackson, MN
- Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership (SWMHP): Residential Blower Door Testing - Slayton, MN
- Worthington HRA: Atrium Hi-Rise Parking Lot Lighting - Worthington, MN

WEST CENTRAL

- City of Brownnton: Brownnton Center Light Replacements - Brownnton, MN
- City of North Mankato: North Mankato Police Station Energy Savings - North Mankato, MN
- Upper Sioux Community: Round House Energy Efficiency Project - Granite Falls, MN
- UMN WCROC: Financial Modeling of Solar and Battery Systems for Dairy and Swine - Morris, MN
- Morris Area Schools Robotics (Plaid Pillagers Robotics Team): Solar on Morris High - Morris, MN

Funding for the grants is provided by the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources.

Details about funded projects and an interactive map with grantee contact info can be found at <http://mncerts.org/2018grants>. Past projects can be explored at <http://mncerts.org/projects>.

About CERTs: The Clean Energy Resource Teams—or CERTs—are a statewide partnership with a shared mission to connect individuals and their communities to the resources they need to identify and implement community-based clean energy projects. CERTs is a partnership of the University of Minnesota Extension and Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Great Plains Institute, Southwest Regional Development Commission, and the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources.

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