

Summit County Renewable Energy Program

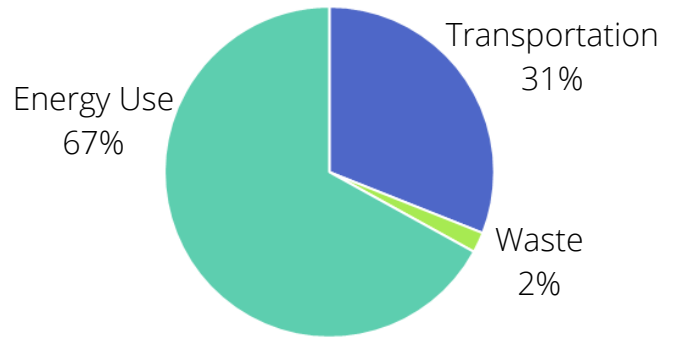
...a proven way to reduce energy use and promote renewable energy, while helping to meet our community's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050

THE PROBLEM

Energy use is the main source of carbon pollution in Summit County. And while we have indoor energy efficiency programs, outdoor energy use is overlooked.

Heated driveways, heat tape, and outdoor pools and spas consume a huge amount of energy.

Summit's Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Wellington home annual electricity use



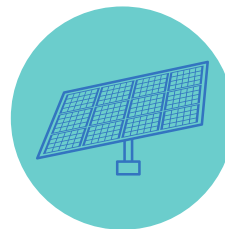
200-square-foot heated driveway annual energy use



THE SOLUTION

A Renewable Energy Program allows outdoor energy use, but requires the energy use to be offset by on-site renewable energy or by paying a fee. Fees paid into the program provide rebates and grants for community energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Installation of new outdoor energy use requires...



OR



Renewable Energy Program Details

To achieve the goals of our Climate Action Plan, we need to dramatically decrease energy use. Because of our climate, homeowners and businesses often install heated driveways, sidewalks, and heat tape on roofs. Heated outdoor pools and outdoor fireplaces are also common.

These outdoor energy uses account for a significant amount of energy consumption, most of which is unnecessary. Heated driveways can be avoided with good design, such as planning for south-facing driveways. Heat tape use can be minimized or eliminated by improving roof insulation and installing controls.

In other mountain communities like Eagle County, Pitkin County, and Snowmass Village, Renewable Energy Programs reduce outdoor energy use and generate funding to help local residents and businesses save energy. These programs require outdoor energy use to be offset by renewables, such as solar panels. In cases where renewable energy can't be installed (e.g., shading or not enough roof space) homeowners and building owners can pay a fee equal to the cost of installing the required amount of solar.

Funds collected through the program provide rebates and grants to local homeowners and businesses for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Funded projects in Pitkin County have included solar panels for employee housing, net-zero energy buildings, and countless home energy efficiency upgrades.

Pitkin County's Success

22,432

Metric tons of carbon pollution avoided annually

\$1 million

Average annual Renewable Energy Program funding generated over the last 3 years

\$2.9 million

Annual energy bill savings realized by Renewable Energy Program projects

\$8.2 million

Grant and rebate funds provided to homeowners and businesses since 2011