

PRESS RELEASE

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Free Energy Efficiency Tips Can Keep You Warmer This Winter

MONTICELLO/LIBERTY, NY— As the recent winter weather has reminded us, preparation is everything in winter. Whether it's keeping an eye on the latest weather reports for the Hudson Valley, investing in snow tires to keep your car on the road, or weatherizing your home, a little foresight goes a long way to keeping you warm and safe through the winter months. Looking into your home's energy use now can save you dollars, headaches, and the need to ration your heat in the coldest weeks of the year.

Due to the laws of thermodynamics, warm air that you've paid to heat your home will eventually rise through the dwelling. If your home or apartment isn't air tight or well-insulated, you could be paying to heat your upstairs neighbor's place or sending that warm air straight out of your home, doing more harm than good. In fact, if you tend to see big icicles forming from your roof, that could be a sign that your roof is under-insulated, meaning you might be paying more for heat than you have to and potentially at risk for water damage.

The good news is the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and your local Community Energy Advisors at Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) can help. Residents all over New York and the Hudson Valley are discovering programs and incentives to help renters and homeowners take a whole-house approach to reducing their energy burden. Most New Yorkers are eligible for a FREE home energy assessment. Seriously! Just contact a Community Energy Advisor to learn how by calling 845-677-8223.

CCE Sullivan County has scheduled two FREE workshops for homeowners and businesses about Resources for Clean Energy Projects, with an opportunity for questions.

The first class will take place Wednesday, February 20, 2019 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the Robert D. Norris Community Room of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library on 479 Broadway in Monticello.

Your Trusted Resource of Choice.

The second identical class will take place Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the Extension Education Center on 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty.

Sean Welsh, CCE Sullivan energy resource educator, presents the basics:

- Improving energy efficiency of your home or business
- Upgrading systems in your building
- Utilizing loans and other financing options
- Home energy assessments

Registration is requested in advance by visiting www.sullivanccce.org, emailing sullivan@cornell.edu, or calling CCE Sullivan at 845-292-6180. In the event of special accommodations, the public can contact the CCE Sullivan office.

Income-eligible residents can also receive cost-share to make your home more energy efficient to start saving money now. A family of four making less than \$53,484 might be eligible to receive energy efficiency retrofits like air sealing, insulation, weatherizing, and even a new refrigerator/freezer at no cost!

Don't wait until the next polar vortex, Nor'easter, or huge utility bill to do something about your home's energy efficiency. Talk to a NYSERDA Community Energy Advisor about what programs, services, and products are right for you. Call 845-677-8223.

About New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA): NYSERDA offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and support to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. A public benefit corporation, NYSERDA has been advancing energy solutions and working to protect the environment since 1975. (<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/About>).

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