



ENERGY STAR® and the Greening of Green Mountain College

ENERGY STAR®
Residential
Light Fixture
Showcase

by Ian L. Todreas, The Cadmus Group, Inc.

Poultney, VT—A small liberal arts institution located in the heart of Vermont’s spectacular Green Mountain range is leading the charge in using ENERGY STAR® residential light fixtures and participating in ENERGY STAR

BuildingsSM. The goal is to cut energy costs while improving building conditions and helping the environment.

Largely because of its commitment to protecting the environment, Green Mountain College decided to

upgrade its lighting 2 years ago. Through a performance contract with SIEBE Environmental, an environmental services company based in New Jersey, the college has retrofitted or replaced more than 2,900 light fixtures and 1,500 light bulbs in 429,000 square feet of dormitories, classrooms, offices, and administrative areas—in short, throughout the entire campus.

ENERGY STAR fixtures Save Energy

By installing fixtures, Green Mountain is realizing significant energy savings. Once Green Mountain replaced fixtures with ENERGY STAR labeled fixtures, it started saving more than 260,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) annually. In many buildings on campus, especially Griswold Library, these lights also help cut air-conditioning costs because they give off less excess heat and help keep the indoor temperature low in

the summer.

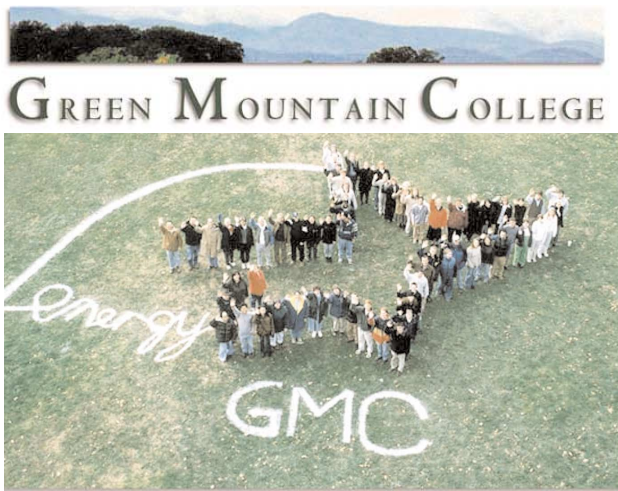
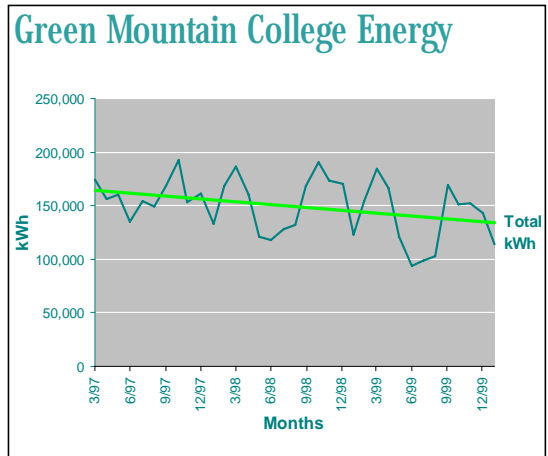
The net effect has been dramatic. Despite increases in the number of computers on campus over the past year, the college’s monthly electricity usage has declined from 119,280 kWh in March 1997 to 84,174 kWh in January 2000, thanks in part to ENERGY STAR labeled fixtures and other energy-saving efforts. These annual savings help pay for water conservation and heating system improvements, which will also save natural resources.

Gary Marcy, the school’s Facilities Manager, notes, “If anybody sits back and looks at the numbers, they will say ‘wait a minute—why didn’t we do this before?’”

Green Mountain experienced an immediate change in the quality of its lighting. “Things are much brighter than they used to be,” says Mr. Marcy, “and students are finding that they don’t need to bring lights from home to supplement the lighting in the dorm rooms.” With fewer portable fixtures added to the college’s load, Marcy expects electricity demand to drop even further.

Environmental Ethos at Work

Green Mountain College Energy



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ENERGY STAR® and the Greening of Green Mountain College

(continued)

EPA estimates that the energy savings from Green Mountain's lighting project prevent some 400,000 pounds of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere each year.

According to Mr. Marcy, the decision to replace old light fixtures with ENERGY STAR residential light fixtures was an easy one. Green Mountain has a strong environmental ethic, so using more energy-efficient fixtures, which draw 50 to 70 percent less electricity and thereby prevent pollution from entering the atmosphere, seemed natural.

"We got involved because Green Mountain has tried to focus on the environment in all aspects of its operations and curriculum. We're trying to practice what we preach," says Mr. Marcy.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the energy savings from Green Mountain's lighting project prevent some 400,000 pounds of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere each year. Put another way, Green Mountain's savings are the equivalent of planting 55 acres of trees or removing the pollution from 40 cars annually.

The school purchased the ENERGY STAR labeled light fixtures from Teron Lighting, based in Ohio. Teron became an ENERGY STAR Partner by signing an agreement with EPA to manufacture light fixtures that meet strict energy efficiency and performance specifications.

"Being part of the ENERGY STAR team presents exciting opportunities to help higher education institutions," says Mike Bellos, Director of Marketing for Teron. "ENERGY STAR helps us stay abreast of what the market is demanding. And the program has helped us forge relationships with new customers."

Rebates on the ENERGY STAR labeled Teron fixtures from the local utility, Central Vermont Public Service Company, helped make the lighting project that much more affordable for Green Mountain. ENERGY STAR labeled fixtures qualify for most rebates where utilities offer them.

ENERGY STAR Residential Light

ENERGY STAR® does not endorse any particular product or partner.

Fixtures are on the Cutting Edge

Light fixtures bearing the ENERGY STAR label are state of the art. They emit bright, steady light like incandescent models. Indoor models start without flickering and operate without the low-level hum typical of the older generation of fluorescent fixtures. More and more portable models feature dimming controls. Outdoor fixtures automatically shut off during daylight hours; some models also have motion sensors.

ENERGY STAR labeled light fixtures are available from a wide range of manufacturers in multiple styles, colors, sizes and design. They include table lamps, wall sconces, workspace lighting, and security lighting. ENERGY STAR labeled torchieres are also available. They look the same as their halogen counterparts and emit an equivalent amount of light, but run 80-percent cooler. ENERGY STAR labeled torchieres are also more cost effective to operate, saving more than \$300 over the lifetime of each fixture. All ENERGY STAR labeled light fixtures meet National Electric Code and ANSI/IEEE standards.

For More Information

If you would like to know more about ENERGY STAR residential light fixtures; call the toll free hotline at 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937); visit www.energystar.gov, or contact: Peter Banwell
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