Home Improvement News: Home performance rebate available for Rockford homeowners

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Staff Report

Energy Impact Illinois, an alliance that provides tools and resources to help homeowners take action toward reducing energy consumption, recently announced a home performance rebate of up to $2,000 for City of Rockford residents who make energy improvements to their home.

The limited-time rebate program is designed to decrease home energy upgrade costs by offering eligible homeowners reimbursements of $1,000 for work resulting in 15 to 20 percent energy savings; $1,200 for 20 to 30 percent savings; or $2,000 for 30 percent savings or more.

City of Rockford homeowners can visit TheEnergyBills.org or call 1-855-9-IMPACT to find a participating contractor.

Energy Impact Illinois participating contractors perform a home energy assessment and work with the homeowner to determine the best mix of improvements for the most savings that meet the Illinois Home Performance with ENERGY STAR requirements.

Eligible homeowners can receive a significant discount on the cost of specific energy upgrades like air sealing, insulation, furnace replacement, and other HVAC work.

Once the work is complete and a quality assurance inspection is conducted, the rebates will be directly subtracted from the contractor's invoice.

Homeowners will also be eligible to receive, at no additional cost, a silver or gold Illinois Home Performance with ENERGY STAR certificate.

Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey (I) said: "We are proud to be a key partner with Energy Impact Illinois and to be selected as the first pilot community in Illinois to launch the Home Performance Residential Retrofit Rebate Program. This energy retrofit program will not only financially assist Rockford homeowners in making needed home improvements to save money on their energy bills, it has the added benefit of improving our environment and leading the way toward energy conservation and a more sustainable community for our future."

Randy Blankenhorn, executive director of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the lead agency behind Energy Impact Illinois, added: "We know there are two things people want to do when it comes to energy efficiency — increase the comfort of their homes and save money on their energy bills. The rebate simplifies the process and offers an attractive option for City of Rockford residents."

Energy Impact Illinois also offers an array of additional tools and resources at TheEnergyBills.org that educate homeowners about their current energy usage, provide information about how to make smart energy efficiency investments and connect them with additional financial resources to make those investments a reality.

These tools include a groundbreaking energy quotient calculator, known as "MyHomeEQ," a customized web tool that gives users customized information about their home energy usage. The tool is a simple process that tells a user how they use energy, what can be done to lower utility bills while improving energy efficiency, and connects them to the right resources and contractors needed to implement those actions.

City of Rockford homeowners are also eligible for financing for the cost of their energy-efficient work exceeding the rebate through the Energy Impact Illinois Residential Loan Program. In partnership with MembersAlliance Credit Union, City of Rockford homeowners can work with certified and specially-trained contractors participating in the program to take advantage of special low rate unsecured loan products to help finance energy efficiency improvement projects. The loan program offers competitive rates and financing for energy efficiency improvement projects, in most cases below what consumers can find elsewhere.

To learn more, and to take advantage of all the resources Energy Impact Illinois offers, visit TheEnergyBills.org.

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