



# Utah Energy Update

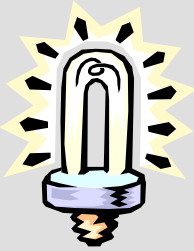
Utah Energy Conservation Coalition/Energy Rated Homes of Utah

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2004 / Vol 8.1

## Inside this issue:

- IECC Changes
- Energy Star News
- Around the Office
- Recessed Cans
- Home Fitness
- Executive Director's Report

**Mark your address books –  
UECC/ERHU has moved to:  
313 North State Street,  
Suite A,  
Orem, Utah 84057-4747.  
You can still reach us on the  
phone at 801-765-0034 or  
800-550-8322.**



## NEW ENERGY CODES TO TAKE EFFECT NOW

### **The state of Utah has adopted the new 2003 IECC, It took effect January 1, 2004**

The International Code Council (ICC) has recently issued the 2003 editions of their family of codes, including the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The requirements for residential buildings in the 2003 IECC are largely the same as those in the 2000 IECC. Increased duct insulation and lenient envelope requirements for sunroom additions are the main changes. Other changes to the code are minor and have little or no effect on code stringency.

Duct insulation requirements have changed from the R-5 or R-3.3 required in the 2000 IECC. In the 2003 code, duct insulation levels are set based on heating degree-days (hdd), duct location, and duct type (supply or return). Supply and return ducts in attics are generally required to have R-8 and R-4 insulation, respectively. Ducts in other unconditioned spaces such as basements, crawlspaces, and garages generally have requirements of R-4 to R-8 for supply ducts and R-2 for return ducts.

A more in depth review of the changes from the 2000 IECC to the 2003 IECC can be found, on a page specific to energy codes, at our website [http://utahenergy.org/energy\\_codes.html](http://utahenergy.org/energy_codes.html).

As part of our on-going practice of providing up-to-date training and information related to the energy codes, the Coalition will be setting up a series of training workshops and seminars specific to the new codes for beginning in late February of 2004. Details on times and locations will be available on our website <http://utahenergy.org/training.html> later this month.

Many of the changes to the IECC are intended to improve code wording. Definitions have been added, and some terminology has changed. Residential building definitions were revised to better align with the IRC and International Mechanical Code definitions.

## **New “Building Performance Energy Efficiency Training Modules” to be offered in 2004:**

The following training courses are provided by the Utah Energy Conservation Coalition (UECC). Our goal is to provide energy related training opportunities that integrate principles, concepts and “hands on” applications into a format that can be implemented by your company. UECC will also provide custom designed courses to fit the needs of your organization. Please refer to our website at [www.utahenergy.org](http://www.utahenergy.org) for a more detailed description and pricing on each workshop.

Workshops are available on the following topics: House As A System, Introduction to Pressure Diagnostics, Intermediate Pressure Diagnostic Testing, Duct System Testing/Repair, Introduction to Indoor Air Quality, Ventilation Strategies, Home Energy Rater Training, Residential Energy Auditor Training, and Introduction to the Model Energy Code.

## Energy Star® News

EPA's 2003 Advertising Partnership was an opportunity for a group of local partners to work together to increase consumer demand for ENERGY STAR® qualified new homes. The Advertising Partnership provided a sustained presence for ENERGY STAR® in the local market. The Utah Energy Conservation Coalition partnered with Fannie Mae, Energy Star, and several builders across the state as an outreach effort, (known as BUILT-WISE) to raise awareness of ENERGY STAR® in the new homes market. The Ad Campaign circulated sixteen times in 4,149,808 newspapers (St George Spectrum, The Deseret News/Salt Lake Tribune and The Daily Herald).

This year UECC has collected energy savings data and calculated annual utility savings and emission reductions to help market the ENERGY STAR® residential home program. This year, the Utah Home Energy Rating System has certified 407 Energy Star Homes across the region for annual energy cost savings of \$112,504.00. A remarkable 1,722 tons of housing emissions have also been reduced annually. The long-term importance of this program is self-evident and the potential for energy and pollution savings in the new home market and the relatively untapped existing home stock is immense.

### **NEW MARKETING TOOL FOR BUILDERS**

ENERGY STAR will soon be releasing its new [ENERGY STAR for Homes Sales Toolkit](#) (formerly known as the Point of Sale Tool). This CD-ROM tool will allow partners to create customized sales materials to enhance ENERGY STAR home sales - in minutes! The first limited "release" of the CD will be sent to Energy Rated Homes of Utah as an Energy Star partner in February.



## **Utah Greenergy Program News**

The major Utah Sustainability Program currently available encourage a "whole-systems" approach to residential construction through design and building techniques to minimize environmental impact and reduce the energy consumption of building construction while contributing to the health of its occupants.

These Utah Sustainability Programs strive to be recognized as strong consumer driven programs that work to educate and change how the public views sustainability, the environment, energy and resource efficiency. These programs are innovative, flexible, and adaptable to all areas and regions. Please visit our website for new and updated information and links at [www.utahenergy.org](http://www.utahenergy.org) under Sustainability Program.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **HOME ENERGY RATER TRAINING**

February 23-27, 2004

April 19-23, 2004

June 21-25, 2004

Sept 27-Oct 1, 2004

Announced on our website [www.utahenergy.org](http://www.utahenergy.org) and to be held at 313 North State Street, Orem, Utah.

Phone or email if you have questions at 801-765-0034 or [cris@utahenergy.org](mailto:cris@utahenergy.org).

---

### **Around The Office**

Get to know the Utah Energy Conservation Coalition by reviewing upcoming staff biographies on our website [www.utahenergy.org](http://www.utahenergy.org) under Inside UECC/ERHU.

#### **Utah Energy Conservation Coalition Board of Trustees:**

Allen Gardner	Marci Milligan
Jerry Zenger	Dale Canning
Bob Stackhouse	

#### **Staff**

David A Wilson	Executive Director
Cris Peterson	Home Energy Marketing
Mark Eldredge	Energy Code Specialist
Brenda Argyle	Technical Assistant

#### **Sponsors**

Advanced Thermal Solutions (ATS)

ATS Systems help lower energy costs, while increasing the overall value of the building to the consumer.

CertainTeed Insulation

Provides many building products and materials to help lower energy costs and increase comfort.

---

## Improving the Performance of Recessed Cans – “New Products”

Although energy conservation experts have been spreading the word for over a decade that recessed can lights are the bane of ceiling air barriers, such preaching has not yet banished the fixtures from residential ceilings. The best cure for a can-plagued ceiling is to remove the fixtures, patch the air barrier and ceiling finish materials, and replace the cans with new surface-mounted fixtures. However, this solution is usually time-consuming and sometimes impossible.

Another approach is to install recessed can retrofit kits from Technical Consumer Products. Each kit includes all the necessary parts to convert an existing leaky incandescent can light into a relatively airtight compact fluorescent fixture.

To use the kit, which is sized for 6-inch round cans, the existing incandescent lamp and the trim are removed and discarded. Then a screw-in adapter is installed in the lamp socket. The kit includes an electronic ballast that plugs into the adapter, which has a pigtail for that purpose. The ballast is attached to a TCX base that accepts a 4-pin spiral compact fluorescent lamp.

The kit includes a reflector that snaps into the ballast and is secured to the old can fixture by means of springy wires. Two types of reflectors are available: a “universal” style and a “Juno/Halo” style. The reflector has a flange, which acts as the trim. The flange has a foam gasket to limit air exfiltration between the trim and the gypsum wallboard. After the reflector is installed, a round plastic diffuser can be snapped into place.

TCP makes several types of these kits with lamps in five different wattages. For more information on this product check their website at [www.tdpi.com](http://www.tdpi.com).

*Disclaimer: The material provided is for informational purposes only, and the UECC does not endorse products.*

*The electrical efficiency and airtightness of most existing incandescent recessed can fixtures can be greatly improved by installing a “Recessed Can Retrofit Kit” from Technical Consumer Products.*

---

## YOUR “PHYSICALLY FIT” HOME *How Does Yours Measure UP?*

The “physical fitness” of your home can make the difference between soaring energy bills or comfortable savings year round. Most people already know they can save money by turning down the thermostat, but there’s only so low you can go before icicles start forming inside your windows. Fortunately, there are other, less-obvious ways to cut costs. A home “energy diet” benefits your pocketbook and the planet. The Utah Energy Conservation Coalition offers consumers step-by-step home physical fitness tips to cut energy bills and increase comfort:

- Most important, “Plug Energy Leaks” and stop those drafts. If your home is drafty, you are. Check your home's first line of defense against the elements – walls, floors, roof, windows, and doors. Seal leaks between moving parts (between door and frame) with weather stripping. Fill leaks between nonmoving parts (between window frame and wall) with caulking.
- Let the sunshine in to help heat your home. Keep blinds or drapes of sun-exposed windows open in the daytime and closed at night to conserve heat. Close unoccupied areas and reduce heat. Close the damper on fireplaces when not in use.
- Replace your four most used 100-watt incandescent bulbs with four comparable 23-watt compact fluorescent bulbs to save \$108 over three years. If all U.S. households did this, we'd save as much energy as is produced by 30 power plants annually.



Saving energy is not a drastic shift in lifestyle. You don’t have to live in a cold, dark house to save energy. You can save energy by simply using it wisely. Sealing-out drafts, switching to energy-efficient light bulbs, avoid wasting hot water... There are several ways to reduce your family’s energy consumption without effecting your comfort or straining your eyes. And you’ll save money in the process.

For every dollar saved annually through energy upgrades, you increase your home value by \$20.00.

---

# Executive Director's Report

The new year has begun and this will be a pivotal year for the Coalition. For many years a significant portion of our funding came from grants provided through the state weatherization assistance program. Suffice it to say, these grants came to an end in 2003 and now we are in the position of needing to replace \$25,000 in funds this year. This is a very difficult task for the Coalition (as it would be for any non-profit organization). Part of the answer rests in cost saving measures that we have already taken upon ourselves to do.

The Utah Energy Conservation Coalition has been incorporated as a non-profit energy resource organization in Utah since 1990 and has a long history of helping to promote a better energy efficient vision of housing and construction for the citizenry of Utah. The UECC is a clear and independent voice for energy conservation and resource management issues! Over the years the UECC has been a leader in the establishment of and support for numerous energy efficient services and programs throughout the state, with Home Energy Ratings and the development of the Utah Energy Star Homes Program being two of the best known ones to date.



The UECC has always tried to maintain a strong presence in Utah and working to increase the understanding and benefits associated with energy efficiency (both physical and financial benefits). We continue to serve the state of Utah by:

- Providing complementary energy design analysis on selected projects and homes built through numerous state non-profit and rural housing organizations.
- Facilitating an open communication channel between builders and building officials dealing with compliance and enforcement issues of the IECC 2003.
- Providing information and referral services to groups, organizations, conferences, consumer groups, local municipalities and the general public on a variety of energy concerns and issues.
- Provide 24/7 Internet availability and information on energy codes, Energy Star Homes Program, Energy training workshops, energy efficient mortgages, sustainability/green building designs, and home energy rating programs.
- Maintenance of two detailed web-sites dealing with energy. <http://www.utahenergy.org> and <http://www.utahenergystar.org>.
- Developing a stronger public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation of natural resources.
- Distribution of thousands of education consumer oriented educational brochures each year at trade fairs, building expos and direct mail.

These are just a small portion of the services that we provide in the arena of energy efficiency and conservation. **Please help us continue our work and services by making a generous contribution. Our very survival depends on your financial support, no matter how small it may be – everything helps!**

Please make your checks payable to the Utah Energy Conservation Coalition, Inc. Remember, your contribution is tax deductible as allowed by law. With your support, the Coalition will be able to continue to serve the state of Utah and have a positive impact in increasing the quality of life for everyone through a greater awareness of energy efficiency and resource conservation.

## Membership Classifications & Fees (per calendar year)

Individuals	\$125.00
Small Business (1-20 Employees), Government, Non Profits	\$250.00
Medium Business (21-75 Employees)	\$500.00
Large Corporations (76+Employees)	\$1,000.00 or greater
Donors	Any Amount Appreciated

For more membership information visit our website at [www.utahenergy.org/becomemember/htm](http://www.utahenergy.org/becomemember/htm)

*“We are in existence to encourage more people to use energy efficiently and to conserve while still remaining both physically and financially comfortable in their homes.”*

*Thank you for your support now and in the future.*

*David A Wilson, Executive Director*