

Volunteer Resources, Strategies and Incentives
Green Building, Energy Conservation/ Alternative Energy, Water Conservation, Income-Eligible

The following green building, alternative energy and water conservation strategies, and income-eligible opportunities are provided for the benefit of those wishing to pursue additional approaches not required for construction in the Town of Ridgway. The information below will be updated as frequently as possible and necessary by the Planning and Building Department. We encourage and welcome your input to keep this resource current and practical. Local and regional service providers and businesses are available on the Town website at <http://www.town.ridgway.co.us>

For the more ambitious, the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has a veritable warehouse of information accessible online at: <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=76#12>

STATE OF COLORADO CENTRAL RESOURCE FOR REBATES, INCENTIVES, TAX CREDITS, ETC.: <HTTP://WWW.RECHARGECOLORADO.COM/>

Green Building

Category	STRATEGY	RESOURCES/ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	APPLICABILITY
Resource	Site selection and building orientation (active/passive solar orientation, preserve trees and natural vegetation, natural site drainage, etc.)	Integrated whole building design techniques and technologies: http://www.wbdg.org/design/site_potential.php Local architects and designers	New Homes
Resource	Construction material recycling and waste reduction to approach zero waste goals.	Regional re-sale stores Local farms/ranches (drywall waste as soil amendment) Use of engineered and recycled lumber (barns, outbuildings, etc.)	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Use of products with a high percentage of recycled content and renewable materials	Decking, insulation, flooring, paint, roofing, fiberboard, landscaping materials, bamboo, cork, recycled wood products, etc. US EPA CPG program for use of recycled products: http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/tools/cpg/products/index.htm	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Healthy Interior (indoor air quality)	No/Low Volatile Organic Compounds (paints, flooring, cabinetry, sealants, oils, adhesives, etc.); Regional paint retailers	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Utilize local labor and materials	target <100 miles	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Radon Testing	EPA: http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/citguide.html <i>Free test kits may be available at Town Hall: (970) 626-5308 ext. 16</i>	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Recycling	Appliances - http://www.aceee.org/Consumerguide/disposal.htm Other recycle resources to be included here	Existing Homes

Energy Conservation/ Alternative Energy

Category	STRATEGY	RESOURCES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	APPLICABILITY
Rebate	“Insulate Colorado” provides homeowners with rebates to insulate and air-seal their homes to help reduce energy costs. Rebates are available up to \$500 or 40% of total cost, whichever the lesser (through SMPA), or \$1000 (through Source Gas), or 50% of total cost, whichever the lesser.	Kim Wheels at (970) 728-1340 or energy.tncc@gmail.com or, http://www.newcommunitycoalition.org/ or, http://www.colorado.gov/energy/residential/existing-insulate-co.asp or, http://excessisout.com/sourcegas/ or, <i>Must be a SMPA or Source Gas utility customer</i> The insulation must be installed by an eligible Colorado contractor.	Existing Homes
Rebate	Alternative /renewable energy power systems (<i>solar electric, solar hot water</i>); \$3/watt up to \$4,500	Governor’s Energy Office (GEO), The New Community Coalition (TNCC), SMPA (rebates); <i>Must be a SMPA customer</i> TNCC (970) 728-1340 or energy.tncc@gmail.com Town Hall (sales tax rebates: Municipal Code §6-1-12) contact (970) 626-5308 ext. 11 or pkraft@town.ridgway.co.us	New and Existing Homes
Rebate	Efficiency furnaces, boilers, proper sizing of furnace and boiler; hot water heaters, programmable thermostats, insulation, miscellaneous hot water insulation and infiltration, infrared heating	Source Gas, GEO (rebates) 877-974-7688 or http://excessisout.com/sourcegas/how_we_can_help/reduce_and_rebate <i>Must be a Source Gas customer</i>	New and Existing Homes
Rebate / Resource	Home Energy Audit	Local Energy Auditors available for all homes or, Source Gas 1-888-212-5899, or http://excessisout.com/sourcegas/how_we_can_help/home_energy_evaluation <i>Must be a Source Gas customer for rebate opportunity</i>	Existing Homes
Rebates	Qualified Appliances: ground source heat pumps, water heaters, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, premium electric motors	SMPA and Tri-State G&T: http://www.smpa.com/EE/rebates.cfm	New and Existing Homes
Federal Tax Credit	ARRA tax credits for energy efficient equipment and building upgrades	Credits are available at 30% of the cost, up to \$1500, in 2009 and 2010 for existing homes on the following: windows, doors, insulation, metal and asphalt roof, HVAC, water heaters (non-solar) and biomass stoves; Credits are available at 30% of the cost with no upper limit for existing homes and new construction through 2016 on the following: geothermal heat pumps, solar panels, solar water heaters, small wind energy systems and 30% of cost up to \$500/.5 kW through 2016 for residential fuel cell and micro-turbine systems http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits http://energytaxincentives.org/uploaded_files/Tax_incentive09.pdf	New and Existing Homes

Category	STRATEGY	RESOURCES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	APPLICABILITY
Loan	Manage investment costs of energy efficiency improvements; Potentially increase loan amount and/or decrease interest rates and closing costs by incorporating energy efficiency improvements and decreasing monthly bills	Energy Efficiency and Improvement Mortgages: initial home purchase or refinance http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=bldrs_lenders_raters.energy_efficient_mortgage http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/eem/energy-r.cfm <i>*this resource may or may not be available and remains under exploration</i>	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, sealing your home (walls, roof, windows, floor, insulation), insulation types and efficiencies, energy-efficient lighting, energy conservation tips, heating and cooling efficiency measures	Energy Star appliances, electronics, and lighting: http://www.energystar.gov Governor's Energy Office (GEO): Professional Energy Audits http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/energy_audits/index.cfm/mytopic=11180 Energy Conservation Checklist http://www.colorado.gov/energy/index.php?/residential/energy-conservation-checklist Heat Loss and Gain http://www.colorado.gov/energy/index.php?/residential/space-heating-cooling Water Heating http://www.colorado.gov/energy/index.php?/residential/water-heating-water-conservation Kill-A-Watt meter to measure energy demand is available at Town Hall	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Smart lighting design that incorporates energy saving measures, such as maximum use of CFLs, LEDs, and dimmer switches.	GEO: http://www.colorado.gov/energy/index.php?/residential/lighting	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Turn everything off when you're not home	Master Manual Control Switch	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Comprehensive Energy Efficient Home (<i>building envelope, insulation, mass, heating/cooling, windows, appliances, lighting, independent testing</i>)	Energy Star for New Homes: http://www.energystar.gov http://smartenergyliving.org/cm/Home_Owners/Factsheets.html TNCC (970) 728-1340 or energy.tncc@gmail.com	New Homes
Resource	Insulate hot water heater and pipes Hang clothes to dry		New and Existing Homes

Water Conservation

Category	STRATEGY	RESOURCES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	APPLICABILITY
Free	Decrease water consumption in existing faucets and showers	Town Hall – Free aerators and shower heads <i>*this is a recommendation only and may or may not be available</i>	Existing Homes
Rebate	Encourage installation or retrofit with water conservation devices	Town Hall – rebates for installation of efficient toilets (1.28 gpf; larger rebate for dual flush at 1.6/.8 gpf); \$25-\$150); faucets, shower heads (\$ or see above), dish washers (\$25-\$50), clothes washers (\$50 -\$150) <i>*this is a recommendation only and may or may not be available</i>	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Standard low-flow vs. dual-flush toilets; Energy-saving & water-conserving low-flow water fixtures (shower heads, faucets, etc.)		New and Existing Homes
Resource	Xeriscape/ Low-water landscaping	Rainwater harvesting; high-desert vegetation; vegetated swales and depressions; pervious paving materials; Keep in mind, the more water you use, the more you may be paying http://xeriscape.sustainablesources.com/ http://xeriscape.org/	New and Existing Homes
Resource	Water Heating and Conservation Tips <i>“Toilets are by far the main source of water use in the home, accounting for nearly 30 percent of an average home's indoor water consumption.” Replacing old toilets can save 11 gallons per toilet each day. – EPA WaterSense</i>	GEO: http://www.colorado.gov/energy/index.php?/residential/water-heating-water-conservation EPA: http://www.epa.gov/watersense/	New and Existing Homes

Income-Eligible Opportunities

Category	STRATEGY	RESOURCES/ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	APPLICABILITY
Free Services	Improve the energy efficiency of all residential structures for low-income households; Provide energy upgrades to income-qualified homes to help keep energy costs low	Weatherization Assistance Program (Income qualifications and details) http://www.housingresourceswc.org/weatherization.html Housing Resources of Western Colorado Phone: (970) 241-2871 <i>available for owner and renter households</i>	Existing Homes
Resource	Assistance with registration for Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) and utility bill assistance; Registration with LEAP provides other opportunities such as free home weatherization services through the Governor's Energy Office	Ouray County Social Services http://ouraycountyco.gov/social.html 177 Sherman Street, # 104 Ridgway, CO 81432 Phone: 970.626.2299 Fax: 970.626.9911 LEAP Registration (for Energy Assistance): 970.369.5446	New and Existing Homes