

REEP application

Name(s): _____ Home Phone#: _____

Property address: _____ Cell Phone#: _____

Approximate year of construction: _____ Approximate size of home (square feet): _____

No. of bedrooms: _____ No. of current occupants: _____ adults _____ children _____

What is the heating fuel (gas, electricity, wood, etc.)? _____ What is the water-heating fuel? _____

Are there mold issues? _____ If yes, where? _____

Please submit copies of your *current* utility bills (water & gas/elec.) and copy of your WI ID/DL with this application.

I have enclosed a \$225 REEP enrollment fee (which includes a portion of the audit cost). Should my house not qualify for an audit, I will receive a refund. If I qualify, I agree to set and keep an appointment with an auditor to facilitate the energy assessment/audit. If I do not agree to make the recommended cost-effective improvements, I may be responsible to pay for the cost of the entire assessment/audit. I give REEP permission to review my energy and water utility billings.

Signature

Date

RETURN TO:

**Racine Energy Efficiency Program
City of Racine Housing Dept.
730 Washington Ave., Room 102
Racine, WI 53403**

Do not write below this line.

OFFICE USE ONLY DATE RECEIVED: _____

Owner Occupied _____ vfy Year Built _____ vfy Property Taxes Paid _____ vfy

Annual Water Usage: \$ _____ /Pd _____ vfy Annual Gas/Elec Usage: \$ _____ /Pd _____ vfy

Annual Combined Usage min. \$1700 _____ vfy Date Disclosure signed: _____

Date Referred to Auditor: _____ Date Specs Received: _____

Date Review w/Owner: _____ Date Referred to LBR: _____

Date Loan Closed: _____ Loan No/Terms: _____

Racine Energy Efficiency Program Disclosure

The Racine Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) offers upfront financing for energy saving improvements in homes located in the city of Racine. It is available to owner-occupied houses and it covers such efficiency measures as insulation, air sealing, furnaces, and water heaters. Homeowners pay for those improvements over a period of years, but payments will be less than estimated savings on energy and water. If a homeowner moves while payments are due, the subsequent owner – who gets the benefit of the improvements – takes over the obligation, unless you make other arrangements in the course of the sale.

After your home has been pre-screened for eligibility. REEP will notify a home auditor, who will set up an appointment to assess your home. Assessments take about two hours.

Following the assessment, REEP will review the findings with contractors and present you with cost-effective improvements. You are encouraged to install all of the identified measures, but in some cases you may be able to choose some but not others. In general, the project must cost at least \$1,000 to move forward.

If you decide not to make the recommended cost-effective improvements after the energy audit has been completed, you will be responsible to pay for the cost of the audit and credit report. (Audits range in price from approximately \$400 to \$600). *Homeowner Initials:* _____

After you agree on the project, you will sign a work order with the contractor and a financing agreement with REEP. After the work is finished and you begin to enjoy the benefits, you will repay the loan through monthly payments. Prospective buyers of your house will see that you are in the program, much as they would if you had a special assessment for sidewalk repairs.

Participation in REEP may qualify you for rebates from the Wisconsin Focus on Energy program (www.focusonenergy.com). All of REEP's home auditors and contractors are certified to do work under that program. The auditor who visits your house can provide more information about these rebates. In addition, many improvements currently qualify for income tax credits. Consult the IRS or other tax resources for more information.

I have read and understand the information provided to me in this disclosure and agree to an energy audit.

Owner Signature

Date

Print name

Owner Signature

Date

Print name

Street Address

Racine, WI zip code: _____

Racine Energy Efficiency Program Utility Data Release Form

I hereby authorize WE Energies to release my electricity and natural gas billing information to the Racine Energy Efficiency Program and the City of Racine, including consumption (kWh, Dt, therms), actual demand (kW), billed demand, power factor, total costs, taxes and fees, rate class, and other relevant information for the following property or properties, for the period of January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2022.

Account Address: _____

Account Number: _____

Name: _____

Signature of Account holder: _____

Date: _____

The utility bill information you share with us by signing this form will be used to analyze the impact of retrofit measures. The data may also be presented in an aggregate form, averaged with other households. This averaged data will in no way be able to identify any individual household or account and will be used strictly for analytical, reporting, and comparative purposes.

[Adapted with thanks from a form created by the Center for Energy and Environment, Minneapolis, MN.]

Save green and go green with REEP!

The Racine Energy Efficiency Program, or REEP, offers homeowners in the city an easy way to cut their utility bills and reduce pollution – with almost no upfront cost! Since the program is only available for a limited time, we encourage you to contact us right away to take advantage of this exciting opportunity right away.

Save money. Insulation, HVAC improvements and other upgrades can cut costs for energy and water use by 25 percent or more. For a homeowner with a \$2,500 in annual utility bills, that's \$625 a year!

Improve comfort. While you're spending less you'll be enjoying your home more with better temperature control and fewer drafty spots.

Reduce pollution. Electricity in our area comes mainly from coal burning, which pollutes our air and water with mercury, soot, greenhouse gases and other substances. Natural gas creates fewer, but still important, emissions. Even water has environmental impacts, as it takes energy to treat and pump it. So an efficient house is a green house.

Strengthen the community. Efficiency improvements support local contractors and their employees.

How it works

The program is available to homeowners who meet these criteria:

1. House is located within the City of Racine.
2. The house is owner-occupied.
3. The homeowner has no overdue property taxes.
4. Owner has no overdue water or other city bills.
5. Owner is current on energy bill.
6. Utility bills are at least \$1,700 a year.

There is no conventional loan application procedure, though REEP reserves the right to adjust the list of criteria as the program grows. A credit check will be processed for all homeowners.

If you qualify to participate, REEP will conduct an energy assessment of your house, which will take about two hours.

The assessment will identify cost-effective upgrades or replacements that REEP could finance. These may include insulation, air sealing, the heating system, the water heater, lighting fixtures, and showerheads. We encourage you to install all of the identified measures, but you don't have to as long as the total cost of the work is at least \$1,000.

REEP will advertise your job with participating contractors and share their estimates with you and you will determine which contractors to use and which improvements to make. You sign a

contract to have the work done, and REEP will pay the contractor. You repay the financing in monthly payments by mail or automatic debit.

Because REEP finances cost-effective upgrades, from Day One your savings from reduced energy and water use should be greater than your payments back to REEP. REEP cannot absolutely guarantee net savings, because we cannot control how you use your house. REEP's savings projection is based on an established rating system with a built-in safety factor – we estimate savings based on current utility rates. In the likely event that energy and water prices rise, so will your savings. Note that replacement windows rarely qualify for REEP financing due to the many years it would take to recoup their costs in energy savings. Of course you are free to have such improvements done along with those financed by REEP, as long as you have a way to pay for that part of the project.

Your payment term will be determined by the costs and savings involved, but it will not be longer than 10 years. Should you sell your house during that time, payment will automatically transfer to the new owner unless you pay the balance at sale. If you fall behind on your payments, the annual amount due may be collected with your property tax.

Some improvements may qualify for tax credits or rebates from the Wisconsin Focus on Energy program. Tax credits are up to you to compute, but REEP is working with Focus to use the rebates to directly lower the cost of your project, so your monthly payments are lower or the term is shorter. When your payment term is over, the improvements are yours.

Getting started

To apply, fill out a short form and submit it with a **\$225 application fee. If you don't qualify for REEP, the fee will be refunded.**

You can get more information and an application:

- At www.cityofracine.org/REEP
- By emailing Housing@CityofRacine.org
- By calling 262-636-9197 to have the City of Racine Housing Department mail you one
- By stopping by the City of Racine Housing Department, 730 Washington Ave, Room 102

My house doesn't qualify

REEP launched as a pilot in 2010. With limited funds largely from the American Recovery and Reinvestment (Stimulus) Act, it is targeting houses where savings are realized, and where homeowners are current on taxes and utility bills. If you do not currently qualify but feel that you may in the future, please feel free to re-apply (a new application fee applies).

Questions? Call 262-636-9197

*REEP is an innovative project of the City of Racine,
with assistance from the Center on Wisconsin Strategy at UW-Madison
and the Delta Institute in Chicago.*