

## Summary of Pepco, Maryland, and Federal rebates and incentives available to Town residents for energy efficiency improvements

### *Pepco incentives:*

#### Energy Wise Rewards

- In return for allowing Pepco some control over your air conditioner settings, you can receive an installation credit and then monthly rebates.
- Allowing 50% cycling gets you \$40 up front and an additional \$40 prorated over the cooling months (75% gets \$60/\$60, and 100% gets \$80/\$80).
- Program information: <https://energywiserewards.pepco.com/>
- Program enrollment page: <https://energywiserewards.pepco.com/enroll/>

#### Lighting rebates

- Get \$1.50 off on select CFLs, or \$3 off on multipacks (with a limit of 25 bulbs).
- Participating retailers in the area include Home Depot, Safeway, Costco, Lowes, Rite-Aid, and Wal-mart.
- Rebate included in reduced price of lights available at retailer.
- Program information: <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/lighting>

#### Appliance rebates

- Rebates are provided for purchasing certain Energy Star appliances (or, in the case of water heaters, those with an Energy Factor of 0.93 or greater)
- \$50 for a refrigerator (limit 1); \$25 for a room A/C unit (limit 5); \$20 for a water heater (limit 1)
- Program information: <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/appliance-rebate>
- Rebate application: [http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/images/sites/pepco/rebates/WebAppRebateForm\\_Pepco.pdf](http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/images/sites/pepco/rebates/WebAppRebateForm_Pepco.pdf)

### Quick Home Energy Checkup

- A home energy audit is available for a \$40 cost; it usually lasts about 90 minutes
- The \$40 cost is waived if the homeowner agrees to allow the auditor to immediately perform at least 3 of the following:
  - Installation of one or more CFLs
  - Tank wrap for an electric hot water heater
  - Pipe wrap for an electric hot water heater
  - Installation of low-flow showerheads
  - Installation of a kitchen faucet aerator or three bath aerators
- Program information: <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/home-energy-savings/check-up>

### Home Performance with Energy Star Audit

- If home has electric heat or central air conditioning
- Pepco Participating Contractor conducts home audit for \$100 (additional fees applicable in limited circumstances) and recommends improvements
- After the same or another Pepco Participating Contractor undertakes the improvements, contractor requests rebates on behalf of resident and resident will receive up to 15% of costs (up to \$1000) for air sealing (if at least 20% reduction in air leakage) and certain attic and wall insulation improvements, and \$200 for duct sealing (if a minimum 25% duct leakage reduction is demonstrated).
- Program information: <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/home-energy-savings/home-performance-audit>
- Can be combined with Maryland program detailed below that offers up to another 35% rebate of costs (and thus up to \$3100 in *additional* rebates including \$100 toward the audit).

### HVAC Efficiency Program

- \$100 rebate if you have a Pepco Participating HVAC Contractor perform a tune-up of your electric central air conditioning system or air source heat pump system.
- \$150 to \$300 rebates if you replace these systems with high efficiency systems (higher rebates for purchases of higher efficiency systems).
- Program information: <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/hvac-efficiency-program>

### Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program

- Provides energy audit and then efficiency improvements (insulation, sealing, lighting, wraps, aerators, etc.) at no cost to the homeowner
- Must not exceed income thresholds that are dependent on number of individuals living in household
- Program information: <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/income-eligible>

### ***Additional Maryland incentives:***

#### Montgomery County – Residential Energy Conservation Property Tax Credits

- Solar and Geothermal = 50% of eligible costs up to \$5000
- Water heating (solar and geothermal) = 50% of eligible costs up to \$1500
- Energy conservation devices = 100% of eligible costs up to \$250
- Note currently posted on Montgomery County website: “Please note that demand for energy-efficiency and renewable energy property tax credits has outstripped the annual budget of \$100,000 for energy-efficiency credits and \$400,000 for renewable energy credits. The current wait time for payment of credits is several months or more, however applicants will be paid in the order that applications were received as long as funding is available.”
- Program information:  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dectmpl.asp?url=/Content/dep/energy/Energy\\_Incentives.asp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dectmpl.asp?url=/Content/dep/energy/Energy_Incentives.asp)
- Application form:  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/finance/CountyTaxes/Renewable\\_Energy\\_Tax\\_Credit\\_Application.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/finance/CountyTaxes/Renewable_Energy_Tax_Credit_Application.pdf)

#### Property Tax Exemption for Solar and Wind Energy Systems

- Solar hot water, photovoltaic solar panels, and wind energy systems are granted an exemption from real property taxes while solar and geothermal heating and cooling systems are granted a special assessment that makes their assessed value equivalent to a conventional system
- Explanation:  
[http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=MD20F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=MD20F&re=1&ee=1)

#### Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Renewable Energy Equipment

- 100% exemption for wind, solar, and geothermal equipment
- Solar pool heating equipment apparently not eligible
- Explanation:  
[http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=MD27F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=MD27F&re=1&ee=1)

### Sales Tax Holiday for Energy Efficient Appliances

- Every year for three day period beginning on the Saturday preceding the third Monday in February.
- Includes refrigerators, clothes washers, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, furnaces, heat pumps, boilers, CFLs, and programmable thermostats.
- <http://www.comp.state.md.us/shopmd/>

### Geothermal Heat Pump Grants

- \$500/ton up to \$2000 for residential installations
- Must have EER of at least 14.0 and COP of at least 3.0
- Grants are not taxable state income, but *are* taxable federal income
- Program information:  
<http://energy.maryland.gov/Residential/cleanenergygrants/index.html>

### Home Performance with Energy Star Rebates

- Energy audit is performed by approved auditor.
- If recommended, eligible improvements are pursued, rebates are available for 35% of the improvement cost up to a maximum of \$1500 per measure.
- Total rebate is capped at \$3100, including \$100 rebate for the audit.
- Total cost of eligible improvements and audit must be at least \$1000, and improvements must be made after January 1, 2011.
- Program information: <http://www.energy.state.md.us/homeperformance/>

### Solar Energy Grant Program

- Rebates for installation of solar energy or solar hot water systems
- For solar hot water,
  - for applications filed on or before June 2, 2011, rebate was the lesser of \$1500 or 20% of the installed cost; must be minimum of 20 sq. ft. of collector area (or 1kW equivalent)
  - for applications filed on June 3 or after, it appears that there are no longer any size limitations but rebate now is capped at \$500
- For solar photovoltaic systems, rebate is \$0.50/W DC for systems up to 20kW (so max \$10,000); must be minimum of 500W system and cannot exceed 20kW.
- Grants are not taxable state income, but *are* taxable federal income
- Program information:  
<http://energy.maryland.gov/Residential/cleanenergygrants/index.html>

## Windswept Grant Program

- Rebates for installation of residential wind energy systems of up to 100kW.
- Minimum size of system must be 1kW for residential.
- Rebates are based on normalized energy production capacity at a reference wind speed.
- Per property, \$2800 for first 5kW; \$2100 for additional capacity above 5kW; capped at lesser of \$20,000 or 50% of net installed cost after other federal, state, and local incentives.
- Grants are not taxable state income, but *are* taxable federal income
- Program information:  
<http://energy.maryland.gov/Residential/cleanenergygrants/index.html>

## ***Additional Federal incentives:***

### Residential Energy Efficiency Tax Credit

- Valid for water heaters, furnaces, boilers, heat pumps, central air conditioners, building insulation, windows, doors, roofs, circulating fans used in a qualifying furnace
- For purchases made in 2009 and 2010, 30% of cost up to aggregate of \$1500
- For purchases made in 2011, specific amount of \$50 to \$300 for certain products, or 10% of material cost up to aggregate of \$500 for other products (certain caps apply)
- Credit cannot be claimed for 2011 purchases if credit was claimed in previous years for at least \$500
- Does not apply to rentals or new construction
- More information:
  - [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=US43F&re=0&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=US43F&re=0&ee=1)
  - [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax\\_credits.tx\\_index](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax_credits.tx_index)
  - <http://energystar.supportportal.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=23018&task=knowledge&questionID=32129>

### Residential Renewable Energy Tax Credit

- Valid for solar water heat, photovoltaics, wind, fuel cells, geothermal heat pumps, other solar electric technologies
- 30% of overall cost (system cost and installation) with no maximum, except capped at \$500 for each 0.5 kW for fuel cells
- Does not apply to rentals
- More information:
  - [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=US37F&re=0&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=US37F&re=0&ee=1)
  - [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax\\_credits.tx\\_index](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax_credits.tx_index)