

## Brattleboro joins energy leadership challenge

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BRATTLEBORO -- In an effort to reduce energy consumption and costs in municipal buildings and operations, the town is teaming up with a new statewide program sponsored by Efficiency Vermont.

The two-year Energy Leadership Challenge, according to a release, is an invitation to the largest businesses and institutions in Vermont to take action to achieve a 7.5-percent energy savings at their facilities over the challenge's two-year timeframe -- July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013.

"This program fits well with the town's ongoing leadership in reducing energy consumption and taxpayer costs, while improving energy efficiency," Brattleboro Town Manager Barbara Sondag stated. "We're happy to participate."

Efficiency Vermont, using both technical and financial resources, will assist those taking part to create a comprehensive, long-term energy savings portfolio and help participating businesses or organizations meet their goals.

The program is geared to the largest 300 or so commercial energy users in Vermont, as well as commercial energy users in Burlington Electric Department territory.

"The Town of Brattleboro's continued commitment to energy efficiency is remarkable," Chuck Clerici, Efficiency Vermont account manager, stated. "By committing to the Efficiency Vermont Energy Leadership Challenge, converting street lighting to LED, and investing in a state of the art wastewater treatment plant, Brattleboro

is helping set the energy efficiency standard for towns across Vermont."

Through the challenge, participants should have an increased incentive to help cover the costs of

energy audits, assistance in developing a two-year energy management plan, analysis of current utility bills, support to adopt Smartgrid technology and data, and marketing support.

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