



## Clean Energy Action in Every Region of Minnesota

**CERTs plugs people in with the individuals and resources they need to get projects done. If a group needs assistance, CERTs is here to help.**

CERTs members across Minnesota work to improve their communities by saving energy and money, becoming more self-sufficient, and advancing entrepreneurship and economic development.

CERTs has staff in seven Minnesota regions. This allows us to tailor our approach to each region's unique resources and needs.

CERTs helps by sharing successful project models (and lessons learned) to support and advance projects in more schools, businesses, homes, and cities. We do this via our blog, events, case studies, interviews, and media work.



### Who's Behind CERTs?

#### Partners:

- U of M Extension & Regional Sustainable Dev. Partnerships
- Eureka Recycling
- Southwest Regional Development Commission
- The Minnesota Project
- MN Dept. of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources

#### Funders:

- Conservation Improvement Program Research and Development Fund, via Division of Energy Resources
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, via U.S. Dept. of Energy and Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
- USDA Rural Energy for America Program
- Carolyn, McKnight, Bush & Southwest Initiative Foundations
- University of Minnesota Extension

### Ready to Get Started?

**Connect, get organized, and start planning a project.**

Visit the CERTs website at [MnCERTs.org](http://MnCERTs.org) to:

- Find upcoming events in your area
- Learn about projects you can do
- Take action with simple campaigns
- Join conversations & get updates





## CERTs: Minnesotans Building a Clean Energy Future

**The Clean Energy Resource Teams, or CERTs, advance the adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in communities across Minnesota by helping people learn, connect, and act.**

Our teams are diverse—individuals, small business owners, farmers, utility representatives, members of environmental groups, government staff, elected leaders, academics—and all share common goals: they want strong communities, local jobs, and secure, clean, reliable energy.

The CERTs approach is one of pragmatism and cooperation. It's a model for how tangible economic, social and environmental benefits can be achieved by reaching across traditional interest groups and taking a true, community-based approach.

### Major Accomplishments

- Helped Minnesotans save over 78 billion BTUs of energy and avoid \$1.2 million in energy costs since 2010.
- Awarded over \$720,000 in seed grants to more than 165 energy projects from 2006–2012.
- Impacted 20,500 people through grants, events, and programs from 2009–2012.
- Had over 150,000 unique visitors to CERTs website from 2008–2012.
- Fostered robust networks in each region and across industry sectors.

### Goals for 2012

- Work with Minnesota communities to save the equivalent of 10 million kWh through the installation of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.
- Build and strengthen partnerships across the state—particularly with Minnesota utilities—while inspiring more Minnesotans to take action.
- Provide high quality resources to Minnesota communities, including 365 stories in 2012 on the CERTs blog.

