

## UNDERSTANDING ENERGY INCENTIVES

Programs at the federal and state levels offer assistance or incentives for energy efficiency improvements to homes and businesses. However, understanding how to use these resources can be overwhelming to the average citizen.

**The following websites serve as excellent sources of information to explore energy options and incentives:**

### **Energy Star:**

[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

Energy Star is a government/industry partnership that offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions, making it easy to save money while protecting the environment.

### **New York State Energy \$mart:**

[www.getenergysmart.org](http://www.getenergysmart.org)

The New York Energy \$mart<sup>SM</sup> program is designed to continue energy efficiency, low-income services, research and development, and environmental protection programs during the State's transition to electric retail competition. "Where you live" has useful links for homeowners.

### **NYSERDA, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority:**

[www.nyserda.org](http://www.nyserda.org)

NYSERDA funds research into energy supply and efficiency, as well as energy-related environmental issues, important to the well-being of New Yorkers. The page provides valuable information about energy programs in New York State and how they can be utilized by businesses and homeowners. Click on "incentives".

### **DSIRE, Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy:**

[www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org)

The DSIRE website provides a fast and convenient method for accessing information about renewable energy incentives offered by federal and state agencies, utilities, and local organizations. You can view incentive information using a variety of criteria.

**The following web addresses directly link to specific information about the applicability of federal tax incentives for homeowners:**

### **TIAP, Tax Incentives Assistance Program:**

[www.energytaxincentives.org](http://www.energytaxincentives.org)

TIAP is designed to give consumers and businesses information they need to make use of the federal income tax incentives for energy efficient products and technologies passed by Congress as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

### **Energy Star:**

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr\\_tax\\_credits](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits)

Energy Star is a government/industry partnership that offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions. This portion of the site explains how the tax credits work and eligibility requirements.

### **Alliance to Save Energy:**

<http://www.ase.org/section/audience/consumers/taxcredits>

### **American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy:**

[http://www.aceee.org/press/Tax\\_incentive05.pdf](http://www.aceee.org/press/Tax_incentive05.pdf)

### **Tax Credit Opportunities for Solar and Energy Efficiency (Florida Solar Energy Center):**

<http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/EPAct-05.htm>

*Please note:*

*While these resources offer guidance about energy tax incentives, you should always consult a tax professional for tax advice.*

### **Broome County Environmental Management Council**

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607-778-2116

[www.gobroomecounty.com/emc](http://www.gobroomecounty.com/emc)

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