



# GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY

Communities joining for a clean energy economy



Grand Opening  
Town of Parachute  
I-70 Rest Area  
solar flowers,  
Aug. 27, 2010



## A Clean Energy Economy Success Story

**Garfield Clean Energy** is a collaborative partnership building the clean energy economy throughout Garfield County. The partnership started in 2008 through the efforts of CLEER: Clean Energy Economy for the Region to build a network of governments, schools, businesses and utilities aimed at strengthening the economy through increased energy efficiency.

The **Colorado Department of Local Affairs** and the **Governor's Energy Office** made the partnership a reality by awarding a New Energy Communities Initiative grant to the region. Garfield County, its six towns, and the library and transportation districts united to respond to the opportunity.

In two years, Garfield Clean Energy completed more than

50 projects benefiting households, businesses, schools and governments. This work substantially cut energy costs and laid the groundwork for a stronger, more resilient economy by employing energy efficiency and solar energy.

Community clean energy leaders now see significant opportunities to grow these results and benefit the economy even more. From a countywide inventory, Garfield Clean Energy found that improving the region's energy efficiency by 20 percent would harness \$40 million for economic development.

By joining forces, Garfield County partners are saving energy, growing the demand for clean energy businesses, and creating an economic development model for communities across the country.

**SIX PROGRAM AREAS**

RESIDENTIAL

GREENING GOVERNMENT

COMMERCIAL

RENEWABLE ENERGY

TRANSPORTATION

SUSTAINABILITY

**RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS**

[www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) > Residential



**Garfield Clean Energy Challenge for Homes**



**One Stop Shop website** Visit [GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) for clean energy news and information, with easy access to clean energy rebates and contractors.  
**Waste Not, Watt Not! 2009** Distributed 15,400 energy efficient light bulbs at community events, senior housing and from town halls countywide.  
**Insulate Colorado 2009** 21 homes insulated. \$15,400 in rebates + \$10,100 homeowner investments = \$25,500 directed to local economy.  
**ENERGY STAR New Homes** Free five-part Builder Training Series on energy efficient construction.

**NOW OFFERED Garfield Clean Energy Challenge for Homes** Rebates for home energy audits, insulation, heat tape timers, furnace/boiler tune-ups, high-efficiency furnaces, boilers, water heaters and cooling, plus free online energy tracking. **Residential Building Codes** Behind-the-scenes work with building departments to use ENERGY STAR standards for efficiency and durability.

**COMMERCIAL PROGRAMS**

[www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) > Commercial



**Commercial Audit and Retrofit Pilot** Provided six Glenwood Springs businesses with energy audits and rebates for energy efficiency upgrades. \$63,480 in rebates + \$20,600 in business investment = \$84,080 directed to local clean energy economy.

**NOW OFFERED Garfield Clean Energy Challenge for Business** Free energy coaching services, online energy tracking and custom energy action plan for all businesses. Rebate boosters for 41 early birds for audits and select energy efficiency upgrades.



**CLEAN ENERGY TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNITY DESIGN**

[www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) > Transportation



First ever **Bike to Work 2009** events held in New Castle and Rifle. **Growing Cooler** workshop connected the dots between energy use, land use planning and transportation policy. **Clean Green Healthy Transportation Challenge 2010** 6,000 students competing at 16 schools saved \$41,300 in gasoline. **Vehicle Fleets Workshop** built local knowledge and expanded investment in electric vehicles and in compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles and fueling stations.



"Thanks again for everything you did for me and my family. I believe the insulation has made a difference already with the heat."  
 — Siobhan McMillan, homeowner

"This was lifesaver for me. It was extremely worthwhile."  
 — Anita Denboske, Active Communications

"As people and business owners, we all gripe about our bills. We just don't get around to acting on the things that could be done. Some things that you can do are really simple and not that expensive."  
 — Sandy Boyd, Glenwood Sewing Center

## GREENING GOVERNMENT

[www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) > Government



**Pilot ENERGY STAR Schools** Active Energy Management in 10 schools from Carbondale to Rifle cut energy costs by \$150,000. **EPA National Building Competition** Crystal River Elementary cut energy use 12 percent, saved \$19,000. **Performance Contracting** Joint selection of energy services company; 50 buildings received energy assessments; energy performance contracts for 18 buildings to save \$135,000 per year. **Active Energy Management** Tracking

utility bills for 50+ public buildings provides systematic approach to finding energy-saving opportunities. **Rifle LED Streetlights** Fixtures installed in 23 downtown lamps cut energy costs by 64 percent and cut maintenance costs in half. **Rifle Electric Vehicles** Purchase of four plug-in vehicles expected to save \$165 per 1,000 miles. **Facility Energy Workshops** Quarterly peer-to-peer meetings for facility managers to compare energy savings techniques.



## RENEWABLE ENERGY

[www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) > Government, Residential & Commercial



**Renewable Energy for Garfield Partners** Solar energy projects at 16 public facilities — town halls, community centers, water plants, maintenance shops, senior housing and libraries — in Parachute, Rifle, Silt, New Castle, Glenwood Springs and Carbondale. Together, these solar systems generate 365 kilowatts of clean energy worth \$55,000 per year; every community has visible example of renewable energy. **Power Purchase Agreements** Introduced finance model to region; Garfield County and New Castle used PPAs to finance larger solar systems. **Glenwood Springs Solar Rebates 2009 & 2010** First ever rebates for 16 home and 6 business systems totaling 95 kW. \$279,000 in rebates + \$341,000 in private investment = \$620,000 directed to local clean energy economy.



## SUSTAINABILITY: CONNECTING THE CLEAN ENERGY DOTS [www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org) > About Us & Government



**Governance** Garfield New Energy Communities Initiative Advisory Board formed with representatives from 9 local government partners; met monthly to set policy and plan lasting organization. **Fiscal Agent** Garfield County staff handled financial and reporting duties. **Clean Energy Financing** Research on property-assessed clean energy (PACE) financing models for Garfield County; Advisory Board endorsed Garfield County participation in state-level PACE financing program;

won U.S. Dept. of Energy Better Buildings funding to support clean energy financing programs. **Garfield County Energy Inventory** First ever study added up public and private sector spending for building and transportation energy (at right). **Build a Lasting Organization** Adopted purpose statement to guide a long-term effort known as Garfield Clean Energy. Garfield partners renewing intergovernmental agreements; will invite other community institutions to join the clean energy partnership.

### Adding Up the Energy Bills Garfield County Energy Inventory

Total energy spending in Garfield County in 2009:  
 \$219 million





An unprecedented collaboration among nine local government partners, two state agencies and a wealth of community nonprofits and small businesses resulted in dozens of achievements.



**Garfield Clean Energy Advisory Board members, with Garfield County and CLEER staff**

Standing, from left: **Jim Rada**, Garfield County Environmental Health; **Alice Laird**, Executive Director, CLEER: Clean Energy Economy for the Region; **Bob Prendergast**, Garfield County Finance Dept.; **Janine Rose**, Garfield County Public Library District; **Ed Green**, Garfield County Manager; **Bobby Hays**, Town of Silt; **Keith Lambert**, Mayor of Rifle; **David Sturges**, Glenwood Springs Mayor Pro-Tem; **Greg Russi**, New Castle Town Council; **Jeff Dickinson**, CLEER; **Mike Ogburn**, CLEER; **Lisa Dawson**, Garfield County Finance Dept.

Seated, from left: **Betsy Suerth**, Garfield County; **Amelia Shelley**, Garfield County Public Library District; **Judith Hayward**, Parachute Mayor Pro-Tem; **Shelley Kaup**, Glenwood Springs City Council; **Heather McGregor**, CLEER.

Not pictured: Carbondale Mayor Stacey Bernot and Trustee Frosty Merriott; Ed Cortez and Jason White, Roaring Fork Transportation Authority; Andy Barton, Town of New Castle; Meredith Robinson, Town of Silt; Rifle City Councilman Jay Miller; Parachute Trustee Juanita Williams; Dale Hancock, Garfield County.

**GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY PURPOSE STATEMENT**

Garfield Clean Energy is a collaborative effort to build the clean energy economy, while leading by example to increase energy security through widespread development of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The organization provides education, technical assistance, program development and administration, marketing and financing to make clean energy accessible and affordable for households, businesses, schools and community institutions throughout Garfield County.

**GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY BY THE NUMBERS**

- Clean energy program beneficiaries to date
  - Local governments: 12
  - Schools: 16
  - Households: 7,603
  - Senior housing facilities: 6
  - Businesses & nonprofit organizations: 136
  - Community partners & co-sponsors: 47
  - Contractors and materials suppliers: 57
  - Media outlets running news and advertising: 8
  - Clean Energy Economy News subscribers: 1,928
  - Website: 4,500 unique visitors, 29,500 page views
  - Clean energy contractors listed on website: 96
  - Trainings and workshops organized and hosted: 19
  - Total renewable energy installed capacity: 441 kilowatts
  - Total value of grants and leveraged funds: \$5.5 million
  - Ongoing energy savings equal to use by 211+ average homes

For break-out lists, please visit [www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org](http://www.GarfieldCleanEnergy.org)

**GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY KEY PARTNERS**

