

ENERGYSMART GROCER CASE STUDY

Davis Food Co-op
Davis, California



Davis Food Co-op Honors Eco-Friendly Vision with the Help of EnergySmart Grocer

The Davis Food Co-op lives by a simple mantra: “Food of the people, by the people, and for the people.” Since its inception as a small living room operation in 1972, the Co-op has blossomed into a full-service grocery store owned and operated by nearly 10,000 local households. This is a store that serves to appease its members, whether it’s offering up an unmatched selection of organic and locally produced foods, or doing its part for the planet by fully committing to eco-friendly practices.

To that end, the Co-op takes its carbon footprint very seriously. As evidenced by the fact that members are rewarded for bringing their own bags, while those who require a paper bag are fined a nickel. Taking this earth-first pledge a step further, the Davis Food Co-op has made a habit of embracing high-efficiency technology with custom solutions provided by the EnergySmart Grocer Program.



Smart Energy Savings

Since 2002, EnergySmart Grocer has worked to assist grocers in lowering their operating costs and energy consumption through high-efficiency upgrades. Davis Food Co-op was there from the start, and continues to receive regular energy audits from the program.

“We see great value in having an energy audit every 2-3 years to stay current on what

new measures can be implemented at the store,” said Eric Stromberg, General Manager of Davis Food Co-op. He added, “The cost/ROI analysis makes it so easy to know what will have the biggest impact and what we can afford. We also use it in our budget planning for the following year.”

QUICK FACTS

GROCER: Davis Food Co-op

LOCATION: Davis, California

PARTICIPATING STORES:

One location

SCOPE OF PROJECT:

Anti-sweat heater controls, new energy-efficient cases, case lighting retrofits, refrigeration controls and EC motors

PROJECTED ANNUAL SAVINGS FOR PROJECTS COMPLETED SINCE 2010:

\$17,200; 135,532 kWh

PROJECT REBATE AMOUNT:

\$13,425

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Comprehensive no-cost energy audit
- Customized energy efficiency investment plan
- Technical expertise and guidance
- Rebates to offset installation costs
- Significant energy savings
- Quick return on investment





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Cool Under Pressure

The main focus of an EnergySmart Grocer energy audit is to pinpoint areas where significant energy savings are ripe for the picking. More often than not, those savings come courtesy of energy-efficient refrigeration retrofits. During the Davis Food Co-op's most recent audit, EnergySmart Grocer made the recommendation to replace the floating head pressure and floating suction pressure controls. These changes paid immediate dividends, as the store saw a four percent drop in energy costs in the first quarter after installation.

The Big Payback

Over the years, the Co-op has teamed with EnergySmart Grocer to implement a wide variety of energy-saving upgrades.

Examples include:

- Anti-sweat heater controls
- Case lighting - T8 and LED with motion sensors
- High-efficiency low temp reach-in cases
- High-efficiency medium temp open cases
- Case EC motors
- Night covers
- Strip curtains



Thanks to its most recent upgrades, made with the guidance of EnergySmart Grocer, the Davis Food Co-op anticipates saving an extra 135,532 kWh in 2011 alone. Those savings pay off not just in the form of lower utility bills, but also by reducing the store's environmental impact. For Davis Food Co-op, a store founded on the idea of doing things the right way, that's a benefit that can not be undervalued.

For more information, please call **1.866.961.6153** or visit us online at **www.energysmartgrocer.org**.

About EnergySmart Grocer

The EnergySmart Grocer Program provides no-cost energy assessments, technical assistance and financial incentives to grocers seeking to lower their operating costs through high-efficiency retrofits. Saving energy is smart business, and with the help of EnergySmart Grocer, participating stores can significantly reduce their energy use in the areas of refrigeration, lighting, HVAC and food service equipment. EnergySmart Grocer operates in the electric utility territory of Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) and is funded by rate payers through the Public Goods Charge. The program has been active since 2002.