



Energy Efficiency Case Study

Brought to you by Eversource

Local nonprofit puts animals in their best light

Dakin Humane Society makes energy-saving lighting and heating improvements to realize big savings.

About Dakin Humane Society

Dakin Humane Society is a community-supported animal welfare organization that provides shelter and animal care services to more than 20,000 animals each year. Since its inception in 1969, Dakin has become one of the most recognized nonprofit organizations in the Pioneer Valley and a national leader in animal welfare. The facility is located in Springfield, MA.

Project Summary

Dakin Humane Society worked with Eversource on energy-efficient improvements made to its lighting and heating systems, which will save an estimated \$49,000 in annual energy costs.

“We do everything from taking in animals who don’t have homes and may need medical care, to donating pet food to help people feed their animals in times of need,” said Dakin Humane Society Executive Director, Carmine DiCenso. “Any money saved on energy can go back into these programs, which is especially vital to a nonprofit organization.”

Prior to the project, Dakin Humane Society’s building had inefficient lighting and a heating system that consistently ran to keep its water hot, wasting money and energy. As a result, a no-cost comprehensive facility assessment was conducted to identify energy-saving opportunities and associated incentives available for Dakin.

Solution

Dakin Humane Society took advantage of the Mass Save small business program to upgrade its inefficient lighting to LEDs and replace its boiler. The incentives from Eversource reduced the upfront cost of the project to \$94,790 – a significant difference from the original cost of \$242,900. The overall project is estimated to pay for itself in two years, and will create a more comfortable environment for guests, animals, and staff.

“We never thought the project would be affordable, but the program helped us make changes we otherwise wouldn’t have been able to do,” said DiCenso. “Everything was done in a way that met our needs without startling the animals or interrupting our business.”



Annual Energy Savings:

298,711 kWh

Annual Cost Savings:

\$48,883

Total Project Cost:

\$242,900

Eversource Incentive:

\$148,113

Net Cost to the Customer:

\$94,790

About Mass Save:

Together, we make good happen for Massachusetts: Berkshire Gas, Cape Light Compact, Eversource, Liberty Utilities, National Grid and Unitil. As one, we form Mass Save®, with the common goal of helping residents and businesses across Massachusetts save money and energy, leading our state to a clean and energy efficient future.

WE ARE MASS SAVE®:

