# **Energy Conservation Success Story**



# Recreation facilities serve up a win for sustainability.

Washington area recreation facilities Yakima Tennis Club and Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation are turning to energy efficiency to achieve savings and sustainable operations. Aiding them in their efforts is the Cascade Natural Gas Conservation Program that offers cash rebates for installing qualified energy efficient equipment.

According to Yakima Tennis Club Manager Jerry Findley the rebates played a big role in their decision to do an energy efficiency project. "The rebates made it feasible for us to go forward with our project. Without them the project probably would not have happened." The Club earned rebates for installing roof and wall insulation. With proper insulation there is less need for heating and cooling which saves an abundant amount of energy. "If we compare a monthly bill from this year to the same month last year our savings is about 1000 therms for one month," said Findley.

Not only is the insulation adding green to their bottom line but they're also seeing improved comfort levels. "We have indoor tennis courts but in the winter it can still get cold inside. We used to get complaints about the temperature but this year we have had no complaints at all," said Findley.

## Yakima Tennis Club

## Issues

• High utility bills

#### Solutions

- Roof insulation
- Wall insulation

# Savings

- \$11,712 cash rebate
- \$16,936 annual gas savings

#### **Benefits**

- Lower energy bills
- A more comfortable environment



Old equipment and high operating costs prompted Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation to look into the Conservation Program. According to Operations Manager James Weppler, "The maintenance cost to keep repairing outdated equipment was getting too expensive." The Parks and Recreation Department purchased two high efficiency gas convection ovens that will produce savings on their annual energy costs and earned them a cash rebate from Cascade Natural Gas. Weppler has already noticed a difference, "We have seen a decrease in our operating costs." While management at the Parks and Recreation Department appreciate the savings garnered by this project they also see the value in the environmental benefits. "Sustainability is very important to our organization. We want to do our part to help the environment and the fact that it also creates savings is icing on the cake," said Weppler.

Collectively these organizations earned rebates totaling \$12,912. The savings don't end there with both facilities projected to save a combined 14,677 therms in energy per year which equates to \$18,346 they will be saving annually in energy costs. Striding forward with more sustainable initiatives Yakima Tennis Club is already looking forward to future energy efficiency projects. Findley says, "Greener practices are important to our organization. We appreciate that it helps us to cut costs and overall we want to do what is best for the environment."

Cascade Natural Gas helps organizations implement conservation measures by offering energy conservation cash rebates to its Washington commercial and small industrial customers. These rebates provide financial compensation based on the performance specifications of the new equipment and/or insulation.

#### Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation

#### Issues

- · High utility bills
- Outdated equipment

#### Solutions

• Two gas convection ovens

#### Savings

- \$1,200 cash rebate
- \$1,410 annual gas savings

#### **Benefits**

Lower energy bills

