



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Paola Take Charge Will Provide \$100 Rebates for Energy Efficient Items

Have a Home Energy Audit, Pay only \$100 and Receive \$100 in Energy-Efficient Do-It-Yourself Home Improvement Items!

May 6, 2011, Paola. – At today's Paola Chamber Coffee and Small Business Energy Audit event, the Paola Take Charge Challenge (TCC) Team announced another reason for citizens to have home energy audits. The TCC program encourages citizens to "Take Charge" of their energy futures by saving and conserving energy at their homes. According to Efficiency Kansas, every home has a hole the size of a basketball in it. Finding those leaks and cracks is what the energy audit can do for you. That is why the TCC efforts encourage citizens across the state of Kansas to have a home energy audit.

The Paola Take Charge Challenge team has given its citizens another reason to do a home energy audit. Currently, Kansans can pay \$100 for this service that typically costs \$500-900 through www.energycanada.com or by calling 1-877-448-3185. Now in Paola, the first 20 citizens to apply can receive a \$100 rebate for energy-efficient equipment they purchase for their homes. **This rebate makes your energy audit virtually FREE!**

Examples of some of the energy-efficient equipment you can purchase include:

- \$100 rebate on your Energy Star® appliance
- CFL or LED lighting
- Programmable thermostat
- Light dimmers
- Power strips
- Caulking
- Insulation
- And more!

The first step is to sign up for an energy audit. After the audit is complete purchase the energy-efficient equipment of your choice, then submit the receipt, along with proof of your home energy audit to City Hall for up to \$100 of reimbursements.

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The Take Charge! Challenge is a friendly competition among 16 cities in four regions of the state, sponsored by a \$1.2 million grant from the KCC's Kansas Energy Office and managed by CEP. Currently, Paola is in the lead to win the \$100,000 energy grant. The competition continues until the end of September. To win, Paola needs YOU! What can you do to help? Here are the key steps:

- Schedule an Efficiency Kansas home energy audit. Go to www.encykansas.com to learn how get a certified professional to help you identify cost-effective ways to improve your home's energy efficiency.
- Make the switch to compact fluorescent bulbs. CFL bulbs use less power and have a longer life. Go to www.TakeChargeKansas.org to register the bulbs switched in your house and business.
- Enroll in a utility's energy efficiency program. For more information, contact your local utility.
- Attend a Take Charge Challenge event.

For more information about this program, or the Paola Take Charge effort, contact Mike Gotfredson, Paola City Planner at 913.259.3600.