



# Efficiency Vermont

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **EFFICIENCY VERMONT METERS HELP VERMONTERS MEASURE ENERGY USAGE**

*100 New Meters Added to Popular Loan Program*

**Burlington, VT** – Efficiency Vermont has expanded a popular program that provides “Watts Up?” electric meters on loan free-of-charge to Vermonters to help them identify links between the appliances they use and their energy usage. Whether it’s an older refrigerator that uses a lot of power or a new game device that consumes electrical energy even when turned off, Efficiency Vermont wants to help residents manage how much energy they use.

Vermonters interested in identifying the cause of a spike on their electric bill or continuously high usage of electricity can use the “Watts Up?” meter to investigate the cause(s). Common household items that can be tested with the meter include:

- Refrigerators
- Dehumidifiers
- Home entertainment systems
- Electric space heaters
- Air conditioners

To meet consumer demand for the program, which doubled in size last year, Efficiency Vermont recently added 100 additional “Watts Up?” meters to its inventory. The meters are available for up to three weeks for Vermont electric utility ratepayers except in Burlington Electric Department (BED) service areas. BED maintains its own efficiency programs and offers a similar meter loan service.

To request an electric meter, go to the Efficiency Vermont Web site and fill out mailing information at [www.encyvermont.com/meterloan](http://www.encyvermont.com/meterloan). The meters are mailed to residential ratepayers along with a postage paid, recyclable, reusable box for return.

“Most of the requests for the electric meter loan come after the customer receives a high electric bill,” said Eric Rutz, manager of customer service at Efficiency Vermont. “We hope that the meter loan will also start conversations around the state with Vermonters interested in finding out how to conserve energy through efficiency to save money and help the environment.”

*Efficiency Vermont was created by the Vermont Legislature and the Vermont Public Service Board to help all Vermonters reduce energy costs, strengthen the economy, and protect Vermont's environment. Efficiency Vermont is currently operated by Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC), an independent organization under contract to the Vermont Public Service Board. VEIC is a Vermont-based nonprofit organization founded in 1986. For more information, contact Efficiency Vermont at 888-921-5990 or visit [www.encyvermont.com](http://www.encyvermont.com).*

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