

## Energy Code Smart Tip

# Energy Code Benefits for Communities

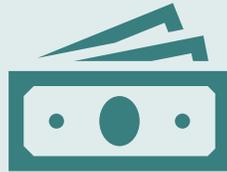
### How do energy codes benefit communities?

Energy codes lower utility costs, increase resilience to climate events, reduce pollution, place less load on the grid, and promote an overall higher standard of construction quality. They promote healthy homes and community-wide sustainability.

## The Many Community Benefits of Energy Codes

### Reduced energy costs

Homes and buildings that are up to code consume less energy and require less heating and cooling. Energy dollars saved can be reinvested in your community.

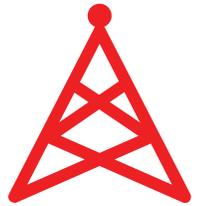


**Today's building energy codes provide over 30% more energy savings compared to the codes of a decade ago (US Department of Energy).**

### Less stress on the grid

Homes and buildings that save energy also place less of a strain on the electric grid. This reduces the risk of grid overload and delays, and eliminates the need for additional power plants.

**Reduced electricity use makes it possible for renewable energy to meet some or all of the building loads.**



### Improved comfort and health



Homes and buildings built to code have tighter building envelopes, which makes them less vulnerable to air leakage from the outside. This makes the indoor environment more comfortable.

Ventilation ensures that adequate fresh air is provided for safe, healthy buildings.

### Reduced emissions

According to [NREL](#), enforcing the energy code has the greatest potential for reducing emissions of any other energy action cities can implement.

**Communities that enforce the energy code demonstrate their commitment to reducing emissions and mitigating climate change.**



## Energy Code Benefits for Communities

### Quality construction and technology

Meeting energy codes demands greater attention to building detailing and construction. This results in higher quality buildings, more efficient mechanical systems and smart control systems.

Quality construction means higher property and resale values. Energy code compliance is a community investment that pays off in the long run.

**An up-to-code building is a well-built building.**



### Reduced retrofit costs

It's much easier to make a building energy efficient from the start than to upgrade the envelope, mechanical, or electrical systems later.

Energy codes save communities money by securing efficiency savings and benefits upfront.



**Current codes are expected to save U.S. home and business owners an estimated \$5 billion annually (US Department of Energy).**



### Have a Question About the Energy Code? Contact Us.

SEDAC provides Energy Code training and support for professionals throughout Illinois.



Online workshops & webinars



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Answers to energy code questions

### WHO WE ARE

SEDAC is the Energy Code Training Provider on behalf of the Illinois EPA Office of Energy.

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