

# e2 Business Program: Retail

Retail buildings are the most common type of commercial building in the United States. As such, the utility usage and resulting environmental impact of retail businesses is quite significant. However, this also provides an opportunity for retail businesses to

## *Energy Efficiency*

Retail and service buildings account for 18 percent of all commercial energy consumption. Over 70 percent of this energy is used for space heating and lighting.

Improvement in technology has drastically improved the efficiency of newer appliances and offers a great opportunity to reduce annual energy bills.

### ✓ *Space Heating*

Furnaces have seen efficiency improve from 50 percent to over 95 percent with the newest models, this means that almost all the energy consumed will be used to heat your business.

### ✓ *Lighting*

New lighting fixtures have seen similar improvements in efficiency. Some compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) bulbs use up to 75 percent less electricity to produce the same amount of light as a standard incandescent bulb and last up to 10 times longer. Light-emitting diodes (LED) use at least 75 percent less electricity and last up to 50 times longer than an incandescent bulb.

In addition to equipment upgrades, changes in operation and employee habits can result in drastic reductions in energy consumption.

### • *Space Heating*

Setting thermometer a couple degrees higher in the summer and a couple degrees lower in the winter can save on heating costs.

### • *Lighting*

Turning off lights when areas are not in use can have a significant impact on lighting costs

*"Earth Goods General Store strives for the highest degree of sustainability in all of our business decisions and practices. At the same time, participation in Salt Lake City's e2 Business program continues to challenge us in finding new ways and in setting new goals to do even better."*

*-Thom Benedict  
Earth Goods General Store  
Owner*



## Rebate Options

Rebates are available for these equipment upgrades.

For more information visit:

[www.rockymountainpower.net](http://www.rockymountainpower.net) or  
[www.thermwise.com](http://www.thermwise.com)

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## *Water Efficiency*

Water use is generally a minor contributor to overall operating costs and environmental impact for retail stores. However, minor changes in habit or equipment can still result in real savings. Domestic water usage and landscaping make up the majority of water use in retail stores, here is what some of our businesses are doing to save water and money:

- Installing low-volume faucets or low-volume aerators can save up to 1 gallon of water per minute of use.
- Installing low-volume toilets and urinals can save up to 5 gallons of water per use.
- Check for and repair leaks to the plumbing system on a regular basis. A leaky toilet can waste up to 50 gallons of water per day!
- Landscaping better suited to our climate including native grasses and drought resistant plants can drastically reduce the water necessary for maintenance and the monthly water bill.



## *Waste Reduction and Diversion*

Packaging materials represent the majority of the waste stream for most retail stores. Because these materials are common and uniform, they are also very easy to recycle. Many of our businesses have reduced their overall waste hauling costs by instituting a recycling program.

- Cardboard is the single largest component of business generated municipal solid waste. Removing cardboard from the waste stream of a retail store will drastically reduce the volume of waste to be hauled and reduce the cost accordingly.

*Any retail business can benefit from energy, water and waste efficiency measures. The e2 Business program has experience working with many different retailers and will provide you with the guidance and assistance necessary to make your business more environmentally and economically sustainable.*

### *Current e2 Business Retail Stores:*

*Earth Good General Store • Especially For You • Golden Braid Book Store • Granite Office  
The Kings English Book Shop • Laser Experts • Retro Rose • The Sole Conduit*

# e2 Business Program: Earth Goods General Store



## Earth Good General Store's Company Sustainability Practices

Many of Earth Good General Store's recent initiatives have reduced its environmental impact and resulted in significant cost savings. Recent initiatives and their benefits follow:

Replacement of an aging black rubber roof with an Energy Star certified white roof. This improvement resulted in the following benefits and savings:

- Reduce roof surface temperature and heat transfer into building
- Reduce air conditioning cost up to **15%**

Installation of bicycle rack constructed of recycled lumber and participation in Bicycle Benefits program.

- Return bicycle customers

Purchase of enough Blue Sky Energy to offset 100% of electricity usage.

- Reduction in carbon emissions

Reduction of electricity use from September 2008 to August 2009 by over 18% compared to the same period in previous year.

- Offset the cost of Blue Sky Energy
- Saved 238 Kwh
- Prevented 500 lbs of CO2 emissions
- Saved **\$266**

Reduction of gas use from September 2008 to August 2009 by over 12% compared to the same period in previous year.

- Offset rate increase
- Saved 13 Decatherms
- Prevented 1521 lbs of CO2 emissions
- Saved **\$130**

Future Projects:

Negotiating with Salt Lake City to include xeriscaping in 9<sup>th</sup> East improvement.

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-Thom Benedict

Earth Goods General Store

Owner

1249 South 900 East

Salt Lake City, Utah

www.earthgoodsgeneralstore.com

801-746-4410

Monday - Saturday

10AM-7PM

Earth Goods General Store, locally owned in Salt Lake City, opened October 2007. It is Utah's source for socially responsible and environmentally sustainable products. It offers everyday goods including home wares, baby products, eco-gifts, school/office supplies, garden and pet goods. In addition to providing Utahns access to earth- and people-friendly merchandise, Earth Goods General Store is a resource center for conscious consumerism.

The mission of Earth Goods General Store is to provide its community with access to the products, information, and resources they need and to enable the practice of more environmentally conscious, economically sustainable, and socially responsible lifestyles and business pursuits.



### CONTACT US:

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