



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA

3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE
ROOM

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026

6:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Approve the Tuesday, May 26, 2026 Meeting Agenda
3. Approval of the Monday, April 27, 2026 Meeting Minutes
4. Items for Discussion
 - A. Faribault Heritage Days Booth
5. Routine Business
 - A. Grant Updates
 - B. Partners in Energy Community Energy Dashboard
6. Commissioner Reports and Updates
7. Adjournment



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE
ROOM

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

6:00 PM

Call to Order

The Environmental Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Lee Nordmeyer at 6:01 p.m. Commissioners in attendance include Lee Nordmeyer, Kevin Theis, Teresa DeMars, Yvette Marthaler, Ann Schultz, and Miranda Lamb. No commissioners were absent. Others in attendance includes Adam King – Environmental and Water Resource Coordinator.

Approval of the Monday, April 23, 2026, Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the Monday, April 23, 2026 Agenda. Motion by Theis, seconded by Marthaler to approve the agenda as presented and carried unanimously.

Approval of the Monday, March 23, 2026, Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

King presented the Monday, March 23, 2026 Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes. The Commissioners discussed the minutes. There were no corrections to the Monday, March 23, 2026 Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes. Motion by Theis, seconded by DeMars to approve the Monday, March 23, 2026 Environmental Commission Meeting minutes as presented and carried unanimously.

Items for Discussion

Faribault Heritage Days Booth

King informed the Environmental Commission that the Faribault Heritage Days festival will be held June 11-13th 2026. The commissioners discussed what should be at the booth. King stated that we plan on holding the public comment period for the city's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP), promoting a SWPPP survey, and that River Bend Nature Center may want to partner with the Environmental Commission on promoting the MN DNR ReLeaf grant and taking signups. Additional ideas included historical information including maps, photos, and projects that look at Faribault's environmental heritage. Commissioners brought forward ideas that included bringing in kids to the booth, and other environmental impacts like the wellhead protection area (WPA), the new Water Treatment Plant, promoting the compost site, and maybe having something to give away, such as a rain barrel.

Routine Business

Grant Updates

King provided an update on submitted grants. The City is waiting for a grant agreement between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the City of Faribault for the MN DNR ReLeaf Grant. The City has received notice from the University of Minnesota that the City of Faribault and can start working on the Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) grant to produce video vignettes on home energy conservation practices. King has reached out to a local videographer for the video vignettes. King has prepared and submitted a Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Projects and Practices Clean Water Fund (CWF) grant for a raingarden at the Golden Meadows Apartments. The BWSR will approve the selected applications for funding at their June BWSR Board meeting.

Commissioner Reports and Updates

The commissioners provided reports and updates to projects they are working on. Teresa DeMars reported that the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District has sold 22,000 trees this year at their tree sale. Kevin Theis reported that he has registered for the Minnesota Environmental Commissions Annual Meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 09, 2026 at the Capitol Region Watershed District in St. Paul, Minnesota. Lee Nordmeyer, Yvette Marthaler, Ann Schultz, and Miranda Lamb did not provide a report.

Adjournment

Motion by Theis, seconded by Schultz, to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Approved:	Date:	Recorder:
	05/26/2026	Adam King, Environmental and Water Resources Coordinator



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission
THROUGH: David Wanberg, Community & Economic Development Director
FROM: Adam King, Environmental and Water Resources Coordinator
MEETING DATE: May 26, 2026
SUBJECT: Faribault Heritage Days Booth

Background:

The Environmental Commission has decided to participate at the Faribault Heritage Days held June 11 – 13th 2026.

Outreach ideas for the Faribault Heritage Days discussed include:

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) Public Comment Period
- SWPPP Survey?
- ReLeaf Grant Sign-up (with River Bend Nature Center)
- Promotion of energy assessment kits and providing energy efficiency kits and water conservation items
- pollinator information
- Historical maps, photos, and conservation projects
- Environmental impacts like the Wellhead Protection Area
- Promote the compost site
- Bring kids to the booth – Stormwater Plinko

Discussion:

How to display everything.

Recommendation:

Attachments:



APPLICATION

City of Faribault ReLeaf Grant 2026



Owner/Applicant Name: _____

Owner/Applicant Address: _____, Faribault, MN 55021

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

The 2026 ReLeaf Grant program is available to income-qualifying homeowners to assist with the removal of dead and diseased trees as well as stumps. This project is made possible and conducted in cooperation through a grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

HOW IT WORKS

The City will provide a list of contractors for the property owner to work with to remove the trees and stumps. The contractor will then submit the bill to the City for payment. The City will inspect to ensure the work has been completed and pay the contractor directly. The program will also provide a new tree planting for every tree removal.

If selected for the ReLEAF grant, you will have to agree to the following through a formal contract with the City of Faribault and agree to the following grant requirements.

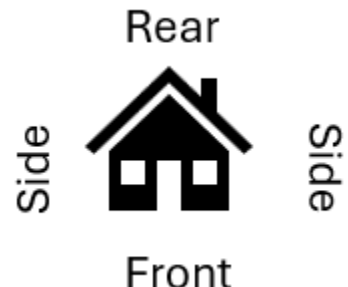
- Plant and care for a new tree according to the Tree Owner’s Manual. The tree planting will occur at the same location of the removal of the dead/dying tree removal whenever possible. A tree tube and watering bag will be provided.
- Maintenance of the newly planted tree is the responsibility of the applicant. Only dead and broken branches should be pruned in the first year after planting. After the first year, the tree may be trimmed for safety and plant health.
- If the tree needs replacement through a warranty, the City will replace the tree.
- Funding will expire on 5/31/2027, and work completed after that date cannot be part of the ReLEAF grant.
- A change in ownership shall not change the terms of the contract. If title to this land is transferred to another party before expiration of the contract, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner who received the grant funds to advise the new owner of the obligations.
- The property owner must grant the City of Faribault and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources or representative(s) of those organizations access to the property including but not limited to, planting, follow-up maintenance, monitoring, or other on-site work.
- Release the State of Minnesota and the City of Faribault from any liability associated with work completed on any private property through the execution of a formal contract.

SECTION 1. TREE INFORMATION

Have the trees previously been inspected? Yes No

Number of dead or diseased trees on the property: _____

- Front Yard: _____
- Back Yard: _____
- Side Yard: _____



SECTION 2. INCOME VERIFICATION

Please mark the household size and the income range that describes your household.

		HOUSEHOLD SIZE							
		1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
INCOME RANGE	30-50%	22,650 - 37,699	25,850 - 43,099	29,100 - 48,499	32,300 - 53,849	37,650 - 58,199	43,150 - 62,499	48,650 - 66,799	54,150 - 71,099
	50-80%	37,700 - 60,349	43,100 - 68,949	48,500 - 77,549	53,850 - 86,149	58,200 - 93,049	62,500 - 99,950	66,800 - 106,849	71,100 - 113,749
	80-100%	60,350 - 75,349	68,950 - 86,199	77,550 - 96,999	86,150 - 107,699	93,050 - 116,399	99,950 - 124,999	106,850 - 133,599	113,750 - 142,199
	100%+	75,400+	86,200+	97,000+	107,700+	116,400+	125,000+	133,600+	142,200+

If you don't see your income range, please indicate your income and household size here _____

If you marked a box that is shaded gray, please continue with Section 2 and 4. If you marked a box that is not gray, please go to Section 3 to learn about another tree removal program.

List all names of the household members selected above, along with the gross income that member contributes to the household. Sources of income include Social Security, salary/wages from part-time, full-time, seasonal work, pensions, Minnesota Family Investment Program, child support/spousal support/alimony, retirement income (401K, 403b, 457b, IRA), general assistance, self-employment/ business income, trust/annuity, interest from non-retirement accounts, government support (disability, retirement, VA, Medicare, Medicaid), rental property income, and other cash sources.

NAME & ANNUAL INCOME

NAME & ANNUAL INCOME

1. _____

5. _____

2. _____

6. _____

3. _____

7. _____

4. _____

8. _____

SECTION 3. VOLUNTARY DISEASED TREE REMOVAL PROGRAM

If you are not eligible for the ReLEAF grant, you can have your trees removed under a Voluntary Diseased Tree Removal Program. The City of Faribault will pay for the upfront cost of the tree removal with a signed voluntary assessment agreement from the property owner. The costs of the tree removal will be specially assessed to the property and paid with the property tax bill for a 5-year period. If you are interested in this program, please check the box below.

Please contact me about the Voluntary Diseased Tree Removal Program.

SECTION 4. SIGNATURE

I certify that I have reviewed this information, it is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that this information is subject to verification by the City of Faribault and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Property Owner Signature(s): _____

Date: _____

Please email your completed form to aking@faribaultmn.gov or mail it to Faribault Public Works - 1200 Belview Trail, Faribault, MN 55021



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission
THROUGH: David Wanberg, Community & Economic Development Director
FROM: Adam King, Environmental and Water Resources Coordinator
MEETING DATE: May 26, 2026
SUBJECT: Partners in Energy Community Energy Dashboard

Background:

Xcel Energy Partners in Energy has released their 2025 Executive Summary and 2025 Community Energy Dashboard. Excel Energy has updated their data systems to improve reliability and accuracy, now refreshing the data annually. There was an increase in business participation in the program, driving energy and money savings. Residential participation is down, driven by a drop in Saver's Switch installations. Home Energy Squad promotion achieved modest results.

We could consider promoting the Home Energy Squad in income-qualified communities, and given the increase in renewable energy programs, we may want to promote the Battery Connect program.

Recommendation:

Attachments:

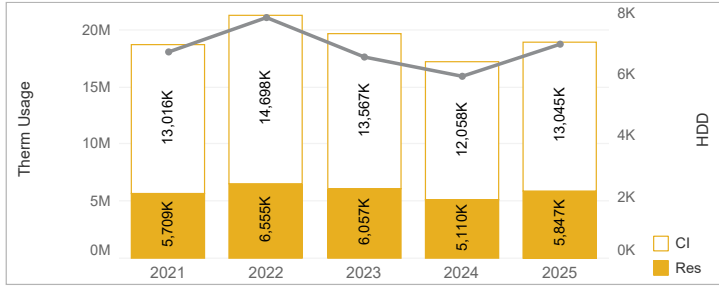
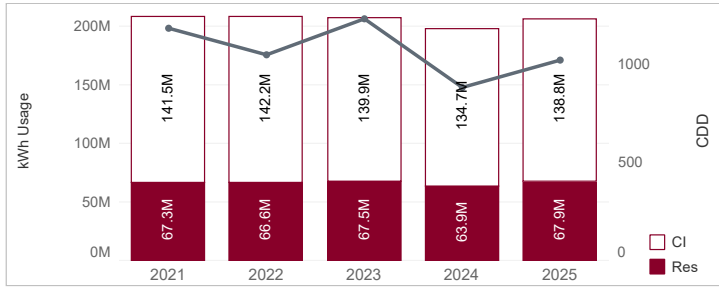
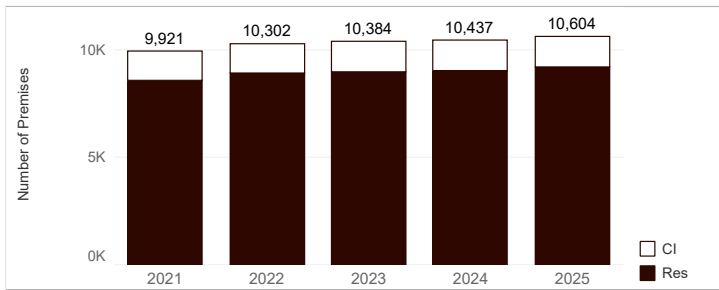
1. PartnersinEnergy-Faribault-CommunityEnergyDashboard-2025
2. PartnersinEnergy-Faribault-CommunityEnergyExecSummary-2025

Faribault strives to: **Baseline**

-Avoid an additional 50% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to business as usual, while saving the community energy and money

2015

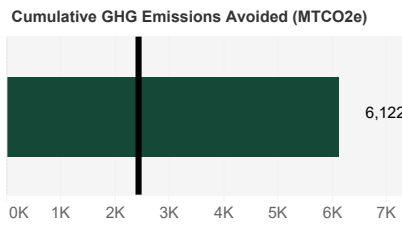
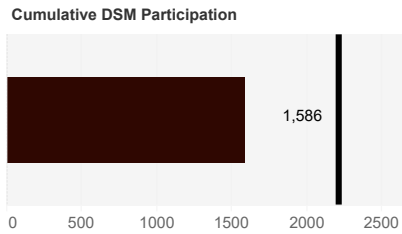
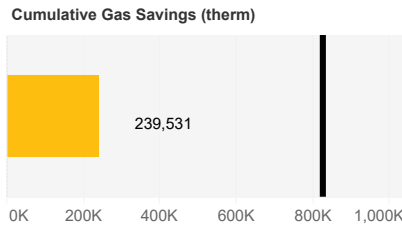
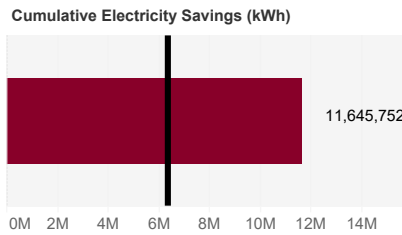
Utility Consumption & Premise Trends



	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cooling Degree Days	1,184	1,049	1,232	883	1,022
Heating Degree Days	6,731	7,849	6,565	5,938	6,983

Energy Action Plan Impact

Implementation Period: October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025



Colored Bar: Progress Black Line: Goal

Annual Program Trends

Energy Efficiency Program Participation

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Commercial & Industrial	92	73	59	67	75
Residential	569	409	657	650	380
Grand Total	661	482	716	717	455

Energy Efficiency Savings

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
DSM kWh Savings	2,391,183	1,368,616	882,424	5,656,468	5,512,744
DSM Therm Savings	43,797	238,269	40,146	116,486	107,271
DSM GHG Savings, MTCO2e	917	1,629	434	1,883	1,677

Annual Premise and Utility % Change

	2022	2023	2024	2025
% Change in Premise Count	4%	1%	1%	2%
% Change in kWh Usage	0%	-1%	-4%	4%
% Change in Therm Usage	13%	-8%	-13%	10%

Partners in Energy is a collaboration of the Community and Xcel Energy. GHG emission estimates reflect the most accurate and current information available, but the data may change slightly after third-party verification.



PARTNERS IN ENERGY
An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

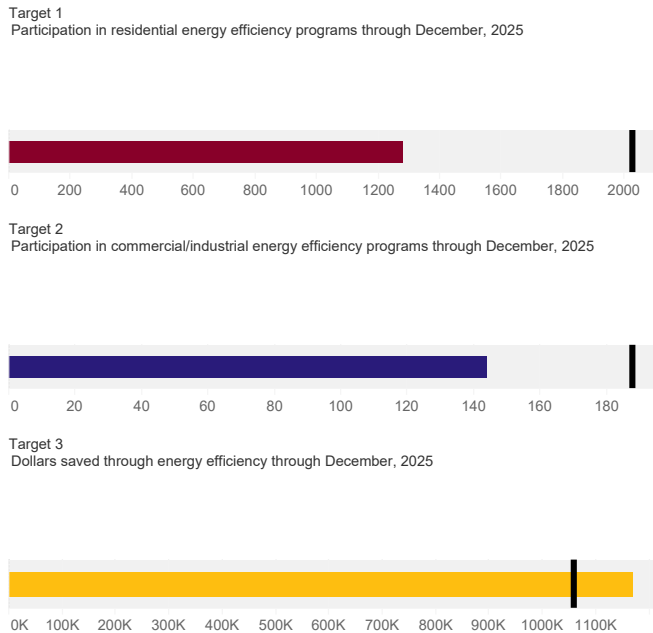
2025 Community Data Dashboard

Xcel Energy Year-End Program Summary



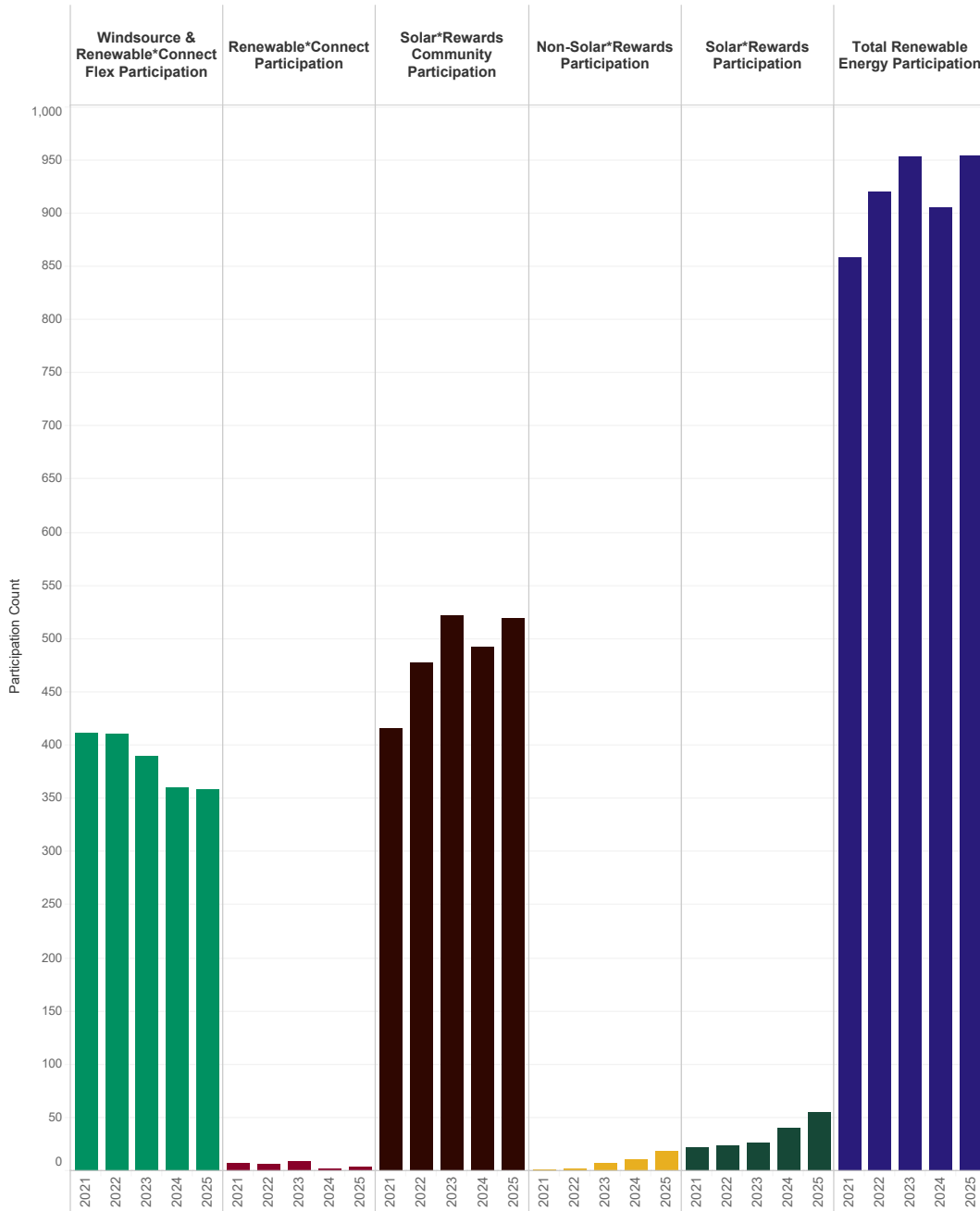
Energy Efficiency Program Participation | Implementation Progress | Implementation Highlights

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CI					
Business Energy Assessments				2	2
Custom Efficiency	3	2		1	
Electric Rate Savings	11		7		
Energy Design Assistance				2	
Energy Efficient Buildings		1	1		
Fluid System Optimization		1		1	5
Foodservice Equipment	2	1			
HVAC +R	14	22	12	24	35
InfoWise			1		
Lighting Efficiency	24	21	11	15	15
Multi-Family Building Efficiency	2		4	2	
Nonprofit Energy Savings Program					4
Peak Partner Rewards	1	1	1		1
Process Efficiency		1			
Saver's Switch for Business	10	7	9	5	7
Small Business Lighting	12	8	7	11	5
Smart Thermostat for Businesses	9	8	4	4	
Turn Key Services	4		2		
Virtual Commissioning					1
Total	92	73	59	67	75
Res					
Affordable Efficient New Home Construction					4
Efficient New Home Construction		19	9	5	11
Home Energy Audit	4	21	8	11	6
Home Energy Savings Program	1		62	29	30
Home Energy Squad	5	21	6	4	9
HomeSmart		21	18	4	
Insulation & Air Sealing		4	2	3	4
Insulation Rebate	4	3		1	3
Low-Income Home Energy Squad	2	31	16	6	6
Multi-Family Energy Savings Program		4	76		
Panel Upgrade					3
Refrigerator Recycling	43	27	33	13	33
Residential Heating and Cooling	243	194	213	188	189
Residential Saver's Switch	214	15	91	336	48
Smart Thermostat	53	49	123	50	33
Whole Home Efficiency					1
Total	569	409	657	650	380
Grand Total	661	482	716	717	455



-Manufactured Home Park outreach to those in XE HESP pilot; new flyer created in English and Spanish for park residents to sign up for HES
 -"Evening in the Park" events to share HES discount code and sign up residents
 -New Construction program flyer created for distribution to developers with permit applications
 -Updated MFBE flyer for inspections / housing
 -Faribault's Fall Festival and Winterfest tabling events for HES sign-ups

Renewable Energy Program Participation



Renewable Energy Metrics

Renewable Energy Program Participation by Sector

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Commercial & Industrial	87	90	100	97	103
Residential	771	830	853	808	851
Grand Total	858	920	953	905	954

Total Renewable Energy Program kWh

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Commercial & Industrial	37,830,131	38,848,519	41,598,657	42,776,590	46,735,440
Residential	3,542,500	3,675,711	4,584,491	4,508,840	4,322,660
Grand Total	41,372,631	42,524,230	46,183,147	47,347,356	51,064,899

Renewable Energy Savings

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Renewable Energy kWh Savings	41,372,631	42,524,230	46,183,147	47,347,356	51,064,899
RE GHG Savings, MTCO2e	1,103	1,078	798	907	1,256

Total Renewable Energy Program Participation

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Windsource & Renewable*Connect Flex Participation	412	411	389	360	359
Solar*Rewards Participation	22	23	26	40	55
Non-Solar*Rewards Participation	1	2	7	11	18
Solar*Rewards Community Participation	416	478	522	492	519
Renewable*Connect Participation	7	6	9	2	3
Total Renewable Energy Participation	858	920	953	905	954

RE GHG savings is estimated from participation in Renewable*Connect and Renewable*Connect Flex.
RE kWh savings is estimated from participation in Renewable*Connect, Renewable*Connect Flex, and Solar*Rewards Community.

ENERGY DATA GLOSSARY

Definitions

Demand Side Management (DSM): Demand side management aims to encourage consumers to decrease energy consumption. Xcel Energy offers DSM programs, like efficiency rebates and energy assessments, to help consumers reduce and shift their energy consumption.

Premise: A unique identifier for the location of electricity or natural gas service. In most cases it is a facility location. There can be multiple premises per building, and multiple premises per individual customer.

Heating Degree Days (HDD): Heating degree days (HDDs) are a measure of how cold the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days and correlates to heating demand. For example, the more HDDs there are, the higher furnace use is likely to be. This is often seen through an increase in natural gas consumption.

Cooling Degree Days (CDD): Cooling degree days (CDDs) are a measure of how hot the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days and correlates to cooling demand. For example, the more CDDs there are, the higher air conditioner use is likely to be. This is often seen through an increase in electricity consumption.

Units of Measure

Greenhouse Gases (GHG): Gases in the atmosphere that absorb and emit radiation and significantly contribute to climate change. The primary greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone.

Kilowatt-hour (kWh): A unit of electricity consumption.

Therm (thm): A unit of natural gas consumption.

Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (MTCO_{2e}): A unit of measure for greenhouse gas emissions. The unit "CO_{2e}" represents an amount of a greenhouse gas whose atmospheric impact has been standardized to that of one unit mass of carbon dioxide (CO₂), based on the global warming potential (GWP) of the gas.

Data Privacy

4/50 Rule: Xcel Energy applies the "4/50 rule" as an aggregation standard to the energy consumption data within this report. So long as a given aggregated value contains 4 or more customers and no single customer makes up 50 percent or more of the aggregated value, the value can be publicized in this report. If these conditions are not met, customer(s) will be removed from energy consumption data.

Renewable Energy Programs

Renewable*Connect Flex (Formerly Windsource): An Xcel Energy subscription program enabling customers to source their electricity from wind for an additional monthly cost. Annual participation is calculated as a count of unique customers in both programs.

Solar*Rewards Community: A community solar garden subscription program where customers subscribe to a nearby, third-party community solar garden. Customers receive a credit for the energy produced by the portion of the solar garden represented by their subscription. Annual participation is calculated as a count of unique customers in the program.

Renewable*Connect: An Xcel Energy subscription program enabling customers to source their electricity from solar and wind for an additional monthly cost. Annual participation is calculated as a count of unique customers in the program.

Solar*Rewards: An incentivized Xcel Energy program for on-site solar installations. Excess energy generation is sold back to Xcel Energy.

Net-Metering: A non-incentivized Xcel Energy program for on-site solar installations. Excess energy generation is sold back to Xcel Energy.

Popular Energy Efficiency Programs

Home Energy Squad: A residential energy assessment program from Xcel Energy that includes a home energy audit and installation of energy efficient materials.

Residential HVAC: A rebate program for residential customers who purchase high-efficiency heating and cooling equipment, including heat pumps, water heaters and more.

HVAC+R: A rebate program where businesses can earn rebates from Xcel Energy on high-efficiency heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration, and more.

Small Business Energy Solutions: A free lighting and HVAC assessment program for small and medium-sized business customers.

Lighting Efficiency: Business customers can earn rebates from Xcel Energy for purchasing and installing LED lighting fixtures, bulbs, and control systems.

Beneficial Electrification

Beneficial Electrification involves reducing direct fossil fuel use in a way that lowers greenhouse gas emissions and keeps energy costs as low as possible.

Check out the **Energy Terms 101** digital resource to learn more:
<https://xcelenergycommunities.com/document/energy-terms-101-0>

Faribault Partners in Energy Community Dashboard 2025 Year-End Executive Summary



Data are through December 2025

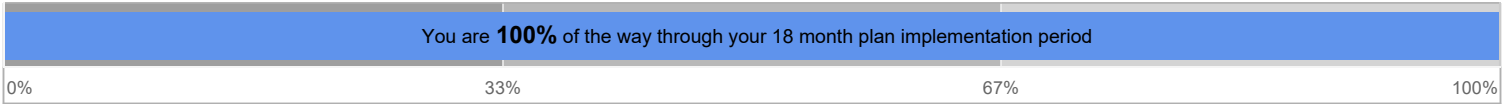
Faribault set the following goals:

-Avoid an additional 50% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to business as usual, while saving the community energy and money

Baseline Year 2015

Energy Action Plan Progress Throughout Implementation

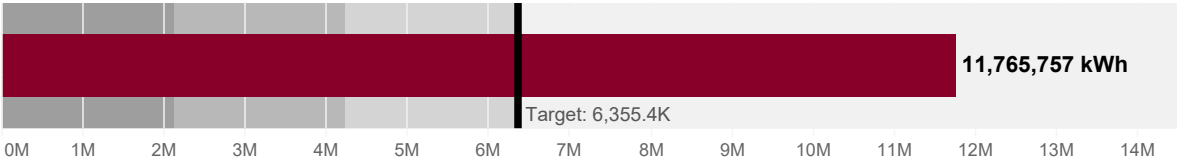
Partners in Energy Support Implementation Period: October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025



Energy Action Plan Cumulative Impact

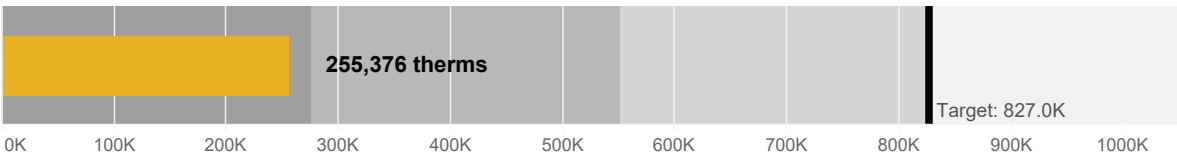
Faribault's progress since beginning implementation of their Energy Action Plan through energy programs

Electricity Savings: Faribault has saved **185%** of its electricity savings implementation target.



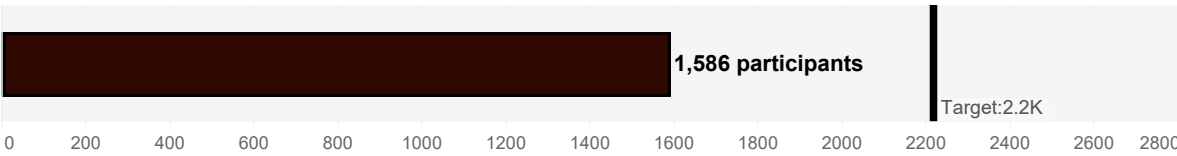
1,261 homes
That's the equivalent electricity needed to power 1,261 average Minnesota homes for a whole year.

Gas Savings: Faribault has saved **31%** of its gas savings implementation target.



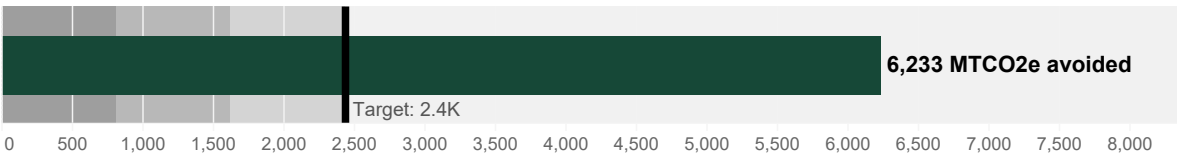
323 homes
That's the equivalent gas used by 323 average Minnesota homes for a whole year.

Energy Efficiency Programs: Faribault has reached **72%** of its participation implementation target.



2.0%
of Faribault's premises participated in energy efficiency programs.

Avoided Emissions: Faribault has achieved **256%** of its emissions savings implementation target.



This includes impact from programs and subscriptions. This doesn't include Net Metering (rooftop solar), which can account for significant additional avoided emissions.

Colored Bar: Progress Black Line: Goal (Based on cumulative target impacts by end of implementation period)

Partners in Energy is a collaboration of the community and Xcel Energy.
GHG emission estimates may change slightly based upon third-party verification of utility emissions factors.

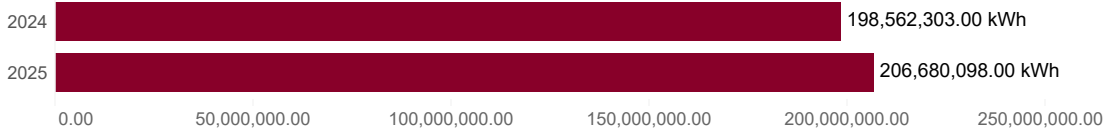


Faribault Partners in Energy Community Dashboard Yearly Comparison



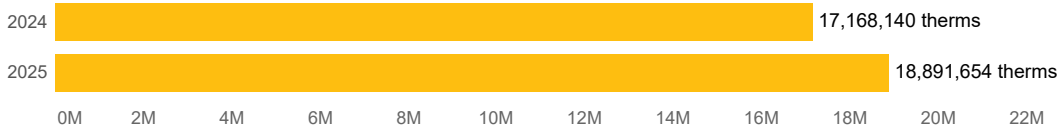
Annual Community Trends Compared to Previous Year

Electricity Use (kWh)



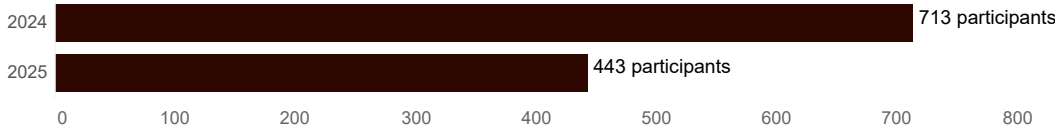
▲ 4%

Gas Use (therms)



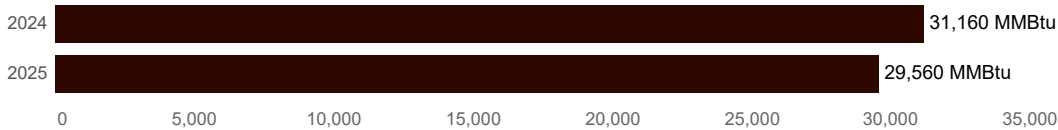
▲ 10%

Energy Efficiency Program Participation



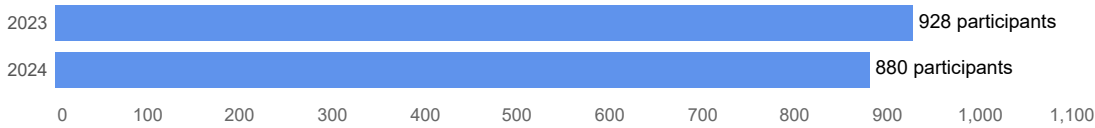
▼ 38%

Energy Efficiency Energy Savings (MMBtu)



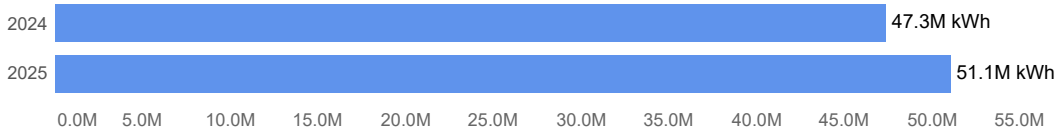
▼ 5%

Renewable Energy Program Participation



▼ 5%

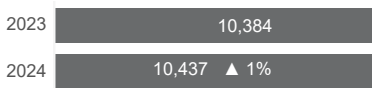
Renewable Energy Program Electricity Subscribed Amount (kWh)



▲ 8%

Potential External Contributing Factors

Premise Count

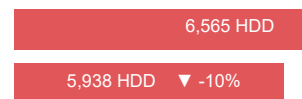


Number of Participating Premises

Cooling and Heating Need



More cooling degree days (CDD) can lead to more electricity use



More heating degree days (HDD) can lead to more gas use

Partners in Energy is a collaboration of the Community and Xcel Energy.
GHG emission estimates may change slightly based upon third-party verification of utility emissions factors.
Subscribed amount (kwh) does not include any generation for on-site solar systems.

