

## **FESC Outreach Activities**

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As the outreach arm for FESC, the University of Florida's Program for Resource Efficient Communities (PREC) is often asked to recommend the best energy saving device(s) to either include in a new home or add or replace in an existing home. To help answer this question, PREC works with various stakeholders, evaluating a wide range of energy-efficiency programs to quantify their impacts and relative measures of energy and economic performance. These analyses address the need to accurately and reliably compare homes' energy efficiency and to understand the energy and monetary benefits of making specific energy-efficiency retrofit investments. Resulting energy savings estimates can provide a basis for prioritizing and targeting specific retrofit programs that are likely to optimize efficiency gains.

Findings of a recent study, supported by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC), have been incorporated directly into the Osceola Energy Initiative (OEI) Energy Efficient Finance Program (EEFP). As a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) initiative under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), the OEI must show measurable and verifiable success in its programmatic goals and objectives. In turn, the EEFP will rely on the availability of valid, transparent comparisons of energy consumption data to measure and verify the efficacy of property improvement measures to be implemented as part of a retrofit loan program for Osceola County. OUC provides electric service to residential customers in Osceola County, and analysis of their energy consumption data merged with housing characteristics data provide the means to generate the types of energy performance comparisons necessary for successful implementation of the OEI EEFP. This analysis provided estimates of program impact for direct use by OUC staff and directly informed key components of the OEI EEFP, such as market segmentation and targeting, loan risk assessment, and pre- vs. post-intervention measurement and verification (M&V).

The overarching goal of PREC's work in evaluating energy conservation programs is to provide accurate and objective information on the costs and benefits of efficiency retrofits in a way that will help Florida businesses and residents save energy and money. Until all of the data are analyzed and final results are available, we encourage homeowners interested in learning more about energy efficiency in their homes to view the fact sheets available on the FESC Web site ([http://www.floridaenergy.ufl.edu/?page\\_id=273](http://www.floridaenergy.ufl.edu/?page_id=273) ).

