

# Green



tips

"We can create a more sustainable, cleaner and safer world by making wiser energy choices."

~ Robert Alan Silverstein

Mark your calendars!



Monday, September 28

CVTC Energy Education Center Ribbon Cutting & Community Open House

3:00 PM | Ribbon Cutting

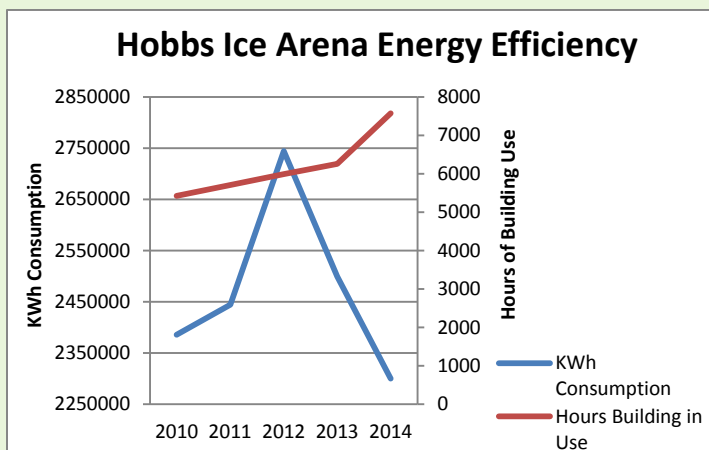
4-7 PM | Community Open House

Energy conservation doesn't necessarily require us to make wholesale operational or structural changes at work or at home. Often, small, incremental changes can result in drastic reductions in consumption over time. Here is one example of how we are conserving energy at the City of Eau Claire.

## Hobbs Ice Center Reduces Electricity Consumption

From 2010 to 2014, Hobbs Ice Center has steadily increased the hours the building has been reserved for ice and room use. Normally, such increased usage would lead to higher levels of energy consumption, but that has not been the case over the past few years due to energy monitoring and simple operational strategy changes.

As is shown in Graph 1, since 2012, Hobbs' annual electricity consumption has fallen dramatically even while the facility is being used to a greater extent.



Graph 1: Hobbs Ice Arena KWh consumption has fallen since 2012 even while hours of building use have continued to rise

Hobbs Ice Arena staff implemented the following small operational changes:

- Reducing rink-space temperatures to normal rink standards
- Chemical water treatment on refrigeration condenser towers to improve heat transfer and reduce compressor run-time (*the biggest contributor to reduced electricity consumption*).
- Using a set-back temperature, allowing the ice to warm up slightly from 10 PM – 6AM each night
- Expanding the acceptable temperature range for office spaces incrementally beginning in 2013

As a result of these changes, in 2014, the highest building-use total in the 5-year period was also the lowest electricity consumption total and the second-lowest demand average. **In 2014, Hobbs Ice Center began to see results, reducing energy consumption by 12% from the previous year, a savings of \$25,000!** For the current year, 2015, they are once again experiencing a 12% decline in energy consumption compared to last year.

There are ways for everyone to help reduce energy consumption such as

- Reducing use of personal heaters and making sure they are turned off when you are away from your desk
- Turning off all electronics at the end of each work day
- Turning off office lights when not in use

Finding ways to focus on energy conservation may just lead you to saving money at work and home. Click [here](#) to find out how.

Please consider the environment before printing 