



## Rockford Housing Authority receives more than \$1 million in energy-saving incentives

### Project snapshot — Blackhawk Courts

#### Energy-saving improvements

- High-efficiency furnaces and ECM motors
- WaterSense® certified showerheads and faucet aerators
- High-efficiency domestic hot water heaters
- Attic air sealing and insulation
- Exterior and interior LED lighting

#### Estimated annual savings

- \$100,550
- 289,800 kWh
- 80,100 therms

#### Project costs

- \$1,133,223 total project cost
- \$1,098,576 project incentives from ComEd and Nicor Gas
- \$34,647 total customer cost from Rockford Housing Authority

Estimated annual savings are calculated using \$0.17/kWh and \$0.6713/therm.

*It was a great experience. Seeing the work that went on from the time of project conception to the installation of the gas and electric measures was impressive. The project was done professionally, and the customer service was excellent.*

**Chuck Doyle**  
Quality Assurance and Physical Assets Manager  
Rockford Housing Authority

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# Blackhawk Courts

## Project summary

The Rockford Housing Authority (RHA) has a long-standing commitment to improve the sustainability of its multi-family public housing communities, and it has worked with ComEd and Nicor Gas to bring energy-saving projects to several of its properties across the city. One of these properties is Blackhawk Courts, a 196-unit, 42-building property that includes a daycare center, administration building, and the Rockford Boys & Girls Club. The RHA partnered again with ComEd and Nicor Gas to assist with improving the efficiency of Blackhawk Courts.

The RHA received a free property assessment from ComEd and Nicor Gas that revealed opportunities for energy-saving improvements. Over the last few years, the team worked to upgrade tenant units with comprehensive natural gas and electric improvements, including high-efficiency furnaces with ECM motors, domestic hot water systems, programmable thermostats, energy efficient LED bulbs, and WaterSense® certified showerheads and faucet aerators. "The new furnaces gave more comfort to the residents, and they are more efficient for their energy bills," said Lynn Feirn, property manager for Blackhawk Courts.



Common areas in the property's interior and exterior also received a range of upgrades, including energy-saving LEDs. "The new LEDs are much more dependable," said Chuck Doyle, quality assurance and physical assets manager, Rockford Housing Authority. "Our common areas are always well lit, which improves the sense of security." A range of weatherization improvements were also completed, including attic air sealing and insulation, to further reduce energy use at the property.

The projects completed with support from ComEd and Nicor Gas significantly enhanced the property's energy efficiency and helped to bring substantial savings to tenants. The positive outcomes at Blackhawk Courts have led to five additional energy-saving projects at other RHA properties.

Annual Project Savings		
Projects	kWh Savings	Therm Savings
High-efficiency furnaces and ECM motors	121,716	59,837
Direct installation products (thermostats, aerators and LEDs)	11,951	7,371
Air sealing and insulation	4,846	12,897
Interior and common area LED lighting	151,291	N/A

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Individual cost savings are not guaranteed and will vary based on weather, energy usage habits and rates. Terms and conditions apply. Offers are subject to change.

This program is funded by ComEd and Nicor Gas customers in compliance with state law.

Blackhawk Courts Case Study