

Colorado Carbon Fund Overview

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Think. Act. Fund.

The Colorado Carbon Fund (CCF) is dedicated to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, creating local jobs, and expanding economic growth across Colorado. Through our voluntary carbon offset program, we encourage you to adopt your own think, act, fund strategy to measure your energy use, reduce your energy consumption, and make a tax deductible contribution to support clean energy growth in Colorado. Options are available for individuals and businesses! The CCF helps fund projects across Colorado and is the only program of its kind to support high quality, verifiable carbon offset projects in a single state.

Projects

Our Larimer County Landfill methane capture project is expected to reduce greenhouse gases equivalent to taking close to 4,500 cars off the road each year! This is in addition to reducing odors and smog associated with the landfill!

The CCF has also contributed funds to local solar hot water projects that reduce natural gas emissions by up to 50 percent. Additionally, we work in partnership with the Denver Public Schools' Green Clubs and are a major sponsor of environmental outreach programs at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Reasons to Join

- Support projects that contribute to greenhouse gas reductions, economic growth, and energy independence.
- Preserves local environment and reduces pollution while supporting jobs in Colorado
- Receive a tax deduction.
- Receive Project C License Plate(s)
- Attract loyal customers: Research shows that a company's social/environmental/community responsibility is a major influence over purchasing decisions.
- Strengthen your brand; distinguish yourself from competitors.
- Leverage cross-promotional and marketing opportunities.
- Do the right thing: voluntary offset purchases are vital to the advancement of carbon reductions and renewable energy.

What is a carbon offset?

An offset represents a unit of measurement of greenhouse gas emissions. One offset is equal to one metric ton of carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO₂e) emissions.

What is a carbon footprint?

A carbon footprint is the measurement of your environmental impact, based on CO₂e emissions associated with your energy use. Your carbon footprint is measured in metric tons of CO₂e.

What is an offset program?

Voluntary carbon offset programs reduce emissions in one place in order to balance emissions that occur elsewhere. When you contribute to the Colorado Carbon Fund, you offset your carbon footprint by funding comparable GHG reductions in new, clean energy projects in Colorado.

How can I shrink my CO₂ footprint?

1. **Think:** Measure your carbon footprint online.
2. **Act:** Reduce your energy consumption.
3. **Fund:** Make a tax deductible contribution to the CCF and support local, low-carbon technologies.

Colorado Carbon Fund Projects

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The CCF depends exclusively on public contributions to promote energy efficiency, advance clean technologies, and support local economic growth. Thanks to the generosity of individuals and organizations, the CCF has helped sponsor the following projects.

PRE-COMPLIANCE OFFSETS

Larimer County Landfill Methane Capture Project: Municipal solid waste landfills like the one in Larimer County are the second-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the United States, accounting for approximately 22 percent of these emissions in 2008. Instead of escaping into the air, landfill gas can be captured and flared. The Larimer County Landfill project will prevent approximately 20,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide from reaching the atmosphere annually -- the equivalent of pulling 4,000+ cars off the road each year! This project also helps to reduce odors and other hazards associated with landfill gas emissions, in addition to preventing methane from migrating into the atmosphere where it contributes to smog and harmful pollution.

COMMUNITY SOLAR HOT WATER

The CCF is proud to have committed funds to three solar hot water projects in Colorado communities that will reduce dependence on fossil fuels and lower carbon emissions.



Apex Center Parks and Recreation (Arvada, CO): This project will install evacuated tube solar collectors on the roof of a 168,500-square-foot recreation center, which is expected to reduce about 54,000 therms of natural gas per year, the equivalent of natural gas usage in 59 average U.S. households. This conversion is expected to lower CO₂ emissions by up to 40%.

Maple Terrace Apartments (Loveland, CO): This project will install fifty solar collectors in an affordable housing community, providing hot water to 325 residents who earn less than one-third of the area median income. The conversion to solar hot water will reduce natural gas use by nearly 6,000 therms, or the annual usage of 6½ typical U.S. households, and reduce approximately 30 metric tons of CO₂ emissions a year. The housing authority plans to pass the energy savings on to its tenants.

City of Boulder Community Pools (Boulder, CO): The City of Boulder will install solar collectors at two recreation centers, which both have significant heating requirements for the pools and hot water systems. This solar-heated hot project is expected to offset nearly 28,000 therms of natural gas each year, the equivalent of natural gas use from 30 typical U.S. households. These extremely visible solar hot water systems are expected to reduce natural gas dependence by more than 40%, preventing approximately 140 metric tons of CO₂ emissions annually.

The City of Steamboat Springs (Steamboat Springs, CO): For this project the CCF will install two flat plate solar collectors on the roof of the 8,400 square-foot Steamboat Springs Community Center. The facility is used 292 days out of the year. The commercial kitchen, where the vast majority of hot water is used, is staffed with volunteers four days a week to prepare 6,000 meals annually for senior citizens and Meals On Wheels. The use of this solar energy to heat water is expected to reduce about 105 therms of natural gas per year.