

## Climate Friendly Nurseries Project

### BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES .....

# Save Money Save Energy

## Invest in ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### Lighting

- Remove lamps in areas with adequate lighting and utilize natural day lighting where possible
- Transition T12 lighting to T8 lighting
- Replace all incandescent lights with CFLs and LED lighting
- Install occupancy sensors

### Greenhouse Efficiencies

- Check for and seal any leaks in the ceiling, around doors, windows and vents
- Reduce temperatures at night, where possible
- Conduct regular maintenance on heaters and/or boilers and calibrate thermostats
- Install a programmable thermostat
- Replace single poly with two layers: one poly and one infrared poly
- Replace fiberglass with double or triple polycarbonate
- Upgrade to an energy efficient boiler with under-bench heating

### Irrigation Efficiencies

- Schedule irrigation early in the day to avoid water loss through evaporation
- Check soil moisture to reduce overwatering of plants and nutrient loss
- Repair or replace broken sprinkler heads, gaskets and leaking pipes
- Perform regular maintenance on pumps
- Upgrade to more efficient sprinklers and consider installing drip irrigation
- Install variable frequency drives on pumps



### Did You Know?

The USDA and EPA estimates that annual carbon sequestration opportunities in the agricultural industry range from 590 to 990 million MTCO<sub>2</sub> per year, which could offset the national annual inventory between 8 and 14 percent.

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### Where do I start?

1. Prioritize projects you have in mind. Do the easy, low- or no-cost things first.
2. Contact Energy Trust (for PGE and Pacific Power customers) or local utility to understand current incentives and training opportunities.
3. Find a contractor near you.  
Energy Trust trade allies—  
<http://energytrust.org/library/find-a-contractor>  
Other public utilities use BPA trade allies—  
<http://northwest-lighting.org>
4. Schedule onsite assessment.
5. Get quote and understand project cost and available incentives (Energy Trust or utility + State of Oregon’s Conservation Tax Credit (formerly known as the Business Energy Tax Credit)).
6. Talk to someone who’s done it. See case studies at [www.climatefriendlynurseries.org](http://www.climatefriendlynurseries.org)
7. Consider applying for additional incentives such as USDA’s Rural Energy for America Program and/or NRCS programs such as EQIP. Apply for applicable incentives BEFORE you begin.  
[www.rurdev.usda.gov/or/reapee.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/or/reapee.htm)  
<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov>
8. Set up installation to work with your production cycle.

### Climate Friendly Nurseries Project

The Climate Friendly Nurseries Project, a collaborative partnership between the Oregon Association of Nurseries and the Oregon Environmental Council, has developed a guide, Best Management Practices for Climate Friendly Nurseries, to help nurseries reduce operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions. The BMP Guide contains detailed recommendations, Oregon case studies, and low and no-cost efficiency improvements for nurseries.

Learn more at [www.climatefriendlynurseries.org](http://www.climatefriendlynurseries.org)

