

Countryside Veterinary Clinic

At a glance

Countryside Veterinary Clinic

St. Anthony, Idaho

Project:

Replaced older interior and exterior lighting with efficient fluorescent and LED options

Annual energy savings:

\$1,740 (18,610 kWh/year)

Project cost:

\$5,100 before incentives

\$1,480 incentive payments

\$3,620 after incentives

Simple payback:

2.9 years before incentives

2.1 years after incentives

Other benefits:

- Lower operating costs
- Enhanced light quality
- Improved nighttime visibility
- Reduced maintenance



Rocky Mountain Power's Timothy Solomon (left) joins Countryside Veterinary Clinic's owner, Dr. Richard Geary, DVM.

More than a pet project, upgrades bring savings

Managing costs while delivering high quality care is as much of a concern in a veterinary practice as it is in human medicine.

At Countryside Veterinary Clinic in St. Anthony, Idaho, lighting upgrades made with the help of Rocky Mountain Power's wattsmart Business program are saving the clinic more than \$1,740 in energy costs and 18,610 kilowatt-hours of electricity annually.

Lower costs, better lighting, help for environment

Dr. Richard Geary, DVM and his staff at Countryside offer a variety of services including small and large animal surgery, vaccinations, dentistry, lab work, preventative medicine and herd health and reproduction.

According to Cindy Geary, Dr. Geary's wife and clinic administrator, lowering energy costs and improving illumination in Countryside's 25-year-old facility were important goals for the lighting upgrade project.

The clinic's original lighting, especially in the large animal care areas, "just didn't seem bright enough," she said. "We had a couple of smaller rooms that were the same way – they needed better lighting."

Geary said being good stewards of the environment was also in mind. "We do our part to not use as much energy. We felt that it was a responsibility that we should take."





Dr. Richard Geary attends a patient beneath more efficient and better quality lighting, upgraded with help from Rocky Mountain Power.

“I don’t think we have to replace the lights as often, which is a big deal with high ceilings. In the large animal clinic, you could get on a six-foot ladder and change them, but it wasn’t easy.”

Cindy Geary

Co-owner and clinic administrator
Countryside Veterinary Clinic

New lighting provides multiple solutions

Old T12 fluorescents with magnetic ballasts in the clinic, office and pharmacy were changed to efficient qualified T8 fluorescent lighting with electronic ballasts. Incandescent lighting in the facility’s two barns was upgraded to highly efficient LED lighting.

Metal halide and mercury vapor lighting used in several exterior areas was replaced with LEDs as well.

“When it gets dark, we’re still working,” said Geary. “With our outside lighting, we need to be able to get a better look at animals at night, to make sure everybody’s ok. The lights automatically turn on and everybody can get around.”

The new lighting also gives the clinic a break from a maintenance challenge.

“I don’t think we have to replace the lights as often, which is a big deal with high ceilings,” said Geary, “In the large animal clinic, you could get on a six-foot ladder and change them, but it wasn’t easy.”

Assistance and incentives move project forward

wattsmart Business vendor Electrical Wholesale Supply in Rexburg assessed the lighting throughout the veterinary facility, helped the clinic select the most effective equipment for its needs and assisted with Rocky Mountain Power’s incentive process.

Countryside Veterinary Clinic earned \$1,480 from Rocky Mountain Power’s wattsmart Business program for its lighting improvements. The incentives helped lower the simple payback of the project by nearly 11 months.

Geary said Rocky Mountain Power’s program was a significant factor in the decision to move ahead with the upgrades. “We probably would have had to find some other way to light the place better instead of replacing the fixtures.”

About Rocky Mountain Power’s wattsmart Business program

Rocky Mountain Power offers a variety of options to help our commercial, industrial and agricultural customers in Idaho, Utah and Wyoming build energy efficiency into new construction and retrofit projects. wattsmart Business offers technical expertise and cash incentives for lighting, HVAC, industrial processes and more.

Let us help you get started

For more information on how we can assist your facility:

- Visit wattsmart.com and inquire online.
- Email wattsmartbusiness@rockymountainpower.net.
- Call our energy experts toll free at **1-800-222-4335**.

Because there are requirements to qualify for an incentive, it is important to call us **before** you start your project.

wattsmart.com

