



IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Summit County offers Home Energy Score assessments to 100 eligible homeowners**

*Coalville* -- Summit County, in partnership with Summit Community Power Works (SCPW) is launching a pilot program to provide Home Energy Score assessments to county residents at a reduced price. Beginning Oct. 22, 2016 the first 100 eligible owner-occupied single family home owners in Summit County will pay only \$50 for a U.S. Department of Energy certified Home Energy Score assessment. Normally priced at \$175-\$200, a Home Energy Score provides a homeowner with a score between 1 and 10 that indicates the home's energy performance. The Home Energy Score comes with helpful information that includes facts about the home, recommendations that will reduce energy consumption, lower utility costs, and improve the overall comfort of the home.

American households spend on average \$2,200 each year on their utility bills. Many could pay far less by making home improvements that save energy, but most homeowners do not have the information to take the first step. To meet this need, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) developed the Home Energy Score. It is an energy assessment that gives homeowners a quick understanding of how their homes perform and what steps to take to improve performance.

Much like a car's miles per gallon (MPG) rating, the Home Energy Score is an indicator of a home's energy efficiency. With Home Energy Score, homes are scored on a scale of 1 to 10, with a 10 being the most efficient. In addition to the Score, homeowners receive information about the home and suggested recommendations for improvements to make the home operate more efficiently. Perhaps most important, the Score can be used to compare different homes or see how your home ranks relative to others. This type of information can help motivate homeowners to make energy efficiency improvements, and can help homebuyers make an informed decision when purchasing a home.

"Increased energy efficiency provides immediate benefits to homeowners by reducing utility costs and improving comfort," says Lisa Yoder Summit County Sustainability Manager. "Weatherizing a home is a complex process involving multiple options, numerous trades, and a range of improvement costs. That's why we are recommending the Home Energy Score assessment: to educate and guide the homeowner in voluntary residential energy improvements. Summit County is reducing the price for the first 100 homes in hopes that people will apply that cost savings toward one of the Home Energy Score recommendations to make their home more energy efficient. We also want to learn where homes in our County are stacking up on the scale to better inform our efforts."

The Home Energy Score assessment process takes about an hour. An Assessor collects and enters information about the home into the Home Energy Scoring Tool software. The Assessor then generates the Score on an easy-to-read 1 to 10 scale. Summit County will also provide the homeowner with a list of contractors endorsed by the utility companies to install energy improvements that qualify for utility rebates.

Nicholas Carroll, owner of Blue Moon Home Inspection, has been selected to provide the Home Energy Scores in Summit County. He is working through one of DOE's Home Energy Score Partners to meet the credential requirements and pass the DOE test that authorizes him to score homes.

Look for the Home Energy Score flyer enclosed in your 2016 property tax bill for more information about the pilot program. To find out if you are eligible for a discounted Home Energy Score assessment, go to [www.summitcounty.org](http://www.summitcounty.org) and click the Home Energy Score link under 'County Spotlight'. Increase the comfort of your home with the information provided by a Home Energy Score and help further Summit Community Power Works' efforts to win the \$5 million Georgetown Energy Prize.

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Summit Community Power Works (SCPW) is the local nonprofit, working to reduce residential energy consumption and win the \$5 million Georgetown Energy Prize to continue energy efficiency endeavors in Summit County and Park City.

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