

Press Release



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Cumberland Habitat for Humanity House Will Radiate With Energy Efficient Lighting

Augusta, MAINE (August 22, 2005) – Cumberland serves as the site for one of Habitat for Humanity’s homes being built this year with sweat equity and donations. Richard Bacon, program manager of the Efficiency Maine Residential Lighting Program, delivered energy efficient lighting products to the job site on Thursday, August 18 with the goal of reducing the homeowners’ electricity costs.

According to Efficiency Maine, these energy efficient lighting products should reduce the new residents’ annual electric bill by \$94.67 a year, based on an average use of four hours a day. Lowe’s of Brunswick donated six ceiling fixtures; one living room ceiling fan; one bathroom ceiling light with fan; two wall fixtures for bathroom vanity; and three exterior lights. This has a retail value of approximately \$1000. Master Electrician M.J. Reed, of MJR Electric installed the fixtures.

ENERGY STAR® lighting was chosen because these products last six to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs and save the consumer up to \$50 per bulb over the seven-year average life of the bulb. For a homeowner purchasing energy efficient fixtures, the additional cost would be paid back by the savings on the cost of electricity in about three years.

“Partnering with Habitat for Humanity helps us show that ENERGY STAR lighting products are easy to find, easy to install and save homeowners money today and tomorrow,” stated Richard Bacon, program manager for Efficiency Maine Residential Lighting Program. “We appreciate the opportunity to spread our message of using electricity wisely through Habitats’ program.”

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In Maine, 166 retailers are participating in the Efficiency Maine Residential Lighting Program and stock these products. Consumers may visit efficiencymaine.com on the Web or call toll free, 1-866-376-2463 (press option 6) to get the complete list of participating retailers in Maine.

Efficiency Maine is a statewide effort to promote the more efficient use of electricity, help Maine residents and businesses reduce energy costs, and improve Maine's environment. The Residential Lighting Program is one of several programs offered to achieve this goal. Efficiency Maine is funded by electricity consumers and administered by the Maine Public Utilities Commission.