



CUExchange News

latest from the Colorado Utility Efficiency Exchange

On-site registration will be open from 9 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Oct. 24. Look for the CUExchange registration desk directly across from the Aspen Meadows reception desk in the main lobby.

Check out the complete CUExchange agenda at www.cuexchange.org/agenda.htm

Getting There

Driving directions from I-70:

- Take Exit 116 toward CO-82 E/Glenwood Springs/Aspen
- Turn right onto North River Dr. North River Dr. becomes 6th St.
- Turn right onto Grand Ave./CO-82
- Follow Grand Ave./CO-82 east through the Aspen roundabout
- Turn left onto N. 8th St.
- Turn left onto Meadows Rd.

From airport:

- Exit the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport towards Aspen
- Proceed through the Aspen roundabout towards Aspen
- Take the first left after crossing Castle Creek Bridge onto 8th Street
- Go to the end of the road. Turn left onto Meadows Road
- Meadows Road dead-ends into the Aspen Meadows

Thank you for being a part of the Colorado Utility Efficiency Exchange—the first, and the first of its kind. If you are used to conferences where one formal group plans the agenda and assembles a roster of experts who can speak to only a small slice of the industry, get ready for something different.

The CUExchange came together because regional utilities are ready to take action on climate change, energy and water efficiency, renewable energy and demand response. This is a meeting for mid-level utility managers who want to talk about their successes, find out what's working in neighboring territories, brainstorm and form partnerships to expand successful programs.

The agenda was created by an ad hoc committee of utilities and trade allies from investor-owned utilities, municipalities, cooperatives, manufacturers and consultants. The committee selected presentations solicited through a Web survey, focusing on program design and implementation, rather than policy.

Presentations are organized by session themes: energy efficiency, carbon reduction, demand response and non-energy benefits. More than half of the attendees are presenters, too, so expect lively discussions filled with working examples, practical tips and real-world solutions. Those who aren't presenting have the chance to select topics for the breakfast discussions. The CUExchange is definitely a "share, not stare" event.

Throughout the three-day event, you'll meet representatives from gas, electric and water utilities, investor- and publicly-owned providers. Daily networking receptions will give you the chance to get to know your colleagues from across the industry, informally swap ideas, make new friends and launch partnerships.

And it is your participation that will make the CUExchange—and the ideas that come out of it—a success. No question about it, this is a different kind of event. Call it a non-meeting, or everybody's meeting, but most of all, call the CUExchange YOUR meeting.

Where to Stay

The CUExchange is taking place at the Aspen Meadows Resort, voted one of "Aspen's Top 10 Luxury Hotels" by Luxury Travel Magazine. Sessions will be held in the resort's new Doerr-Hosier Conference Center, the first building in the Roaring Fork Valley to receive a LEED Gold rating.

Aspen Meadows offers full range of services, including a complete business center, high-speed Internet access in meeting and conference rooms, room service and fine dining onsite at Plato's. The outdoor heated pool, hot tub, fitness center with Yoga and Pilates classes, tennis courts and nearby Aspen Golf Course provide plenty of opportunity to relax and unwind in beautiful surroundings.

If you haven't reserved your room yet, call 800-452-4240 to receive the special event rate of \$115 per night. Check-in time is 4 p.m.

Aspen Meadows is located at 845 Meadows Road, a quarter mile from the city of Aspen and a five-minute drive from Aspen airport. Complimentary shuttle service is available. Eagle-Vail airport is another option, about an hour away by car.

What to Wear

It's hard to be formal when surrounded by the Colorado Rockies, so leave the business suit at home. Sweaters and khakis will be fine for crisp, autumn days. Bring a warm jacket if you plan on hitting the town in the evening, because the mercury can drop below freezing on October nights. And don't forget to bring your bathing suit for Aspen Meadows' pool and hot tub.

Thanks to our Supporters



Pre-conference Workshops

If you are arriving early in Aspen, don't miss the two pre-conference sessions planned for Wednesday morning.

From 9 a.m. to noon, get tips on *Improving Your Utility's Web Site* from Tom Dubos and Michael Overstreet of Apogee Interactive, the leading provider of Internet-based software solutions for the energy industry. "A good Web site can save a utility money, even as it improves customer service," said Dubos.

The workshop will feature "ugly" Web site makeovers, with "before" and "after" examples. Brave volunteers can submit their Web sites for critique by their peers and the presenters. There is a \$50 fee for this session, but **you can attend for free if you mention this newsletter and email tomDubos@apogee.net by Friday, Oct. 19.**

The second workshop, from 10 a.m. to noon, will update participants on the *Colorado Statewide CFL Program Initiative*. Join Energy Services Specialist Adam Perry of Platte River Power Authority to discuss a straw proposal for a statewide CFL program. The proposal is based on successful programs run by Fort Collins Utilities, Colorado Springs Utilities and Xcel Energy. "Utilities that are thinking about launching their own CFL program should attend this workshop," said Perry. "Participants will get lots of ideas for moving a program beyond a simple giveaway to market transformation. They will also have the chance to give their input on what a statewide program should look like."

This workshop is free to all interested attendees, so advance registration is recommended.

What to Eat

Note: Wednesday breakfast is on your own. The Meadows Restaurant has an excellent breakfast buffet for a fee.

The CUEexchange kicks off Wednesday at noon with a hot and cold lunch buffet at the Meadows Restaurant, included in your conference fee. Immediately following lunch, we will move to the conference center for the opening keynote speech by Deb Sundin, Business Product Marketing Director for Xcel Energy and a member of the Leadership Group for National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency.

On Wednesday evening, plan on attending the opening networking reception at the conference center in the main meeting space. Hors d'oeuvres will be available, along with beer, wine and soft drinks from the hosted bar, and scintillating conversation! The Thursday networking reception will be held at one of Aspen's fine eating and drinking establishments, to be announced in the next edition of the daily CUEexchange News.

Your conference fee also includes breakfast and lunch buffets at the Meadows Restaurant on Thursday and Friday.

Things to Do

Aspen has it all - natural beauty, historical charm and cosmopolitan chic. For outdoors enthusiasts, fall is a great time for golfing, hiking, biking, fly-fishing, kayaking, horseback riding, even hot-air ballooning. A visit to the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies in the Hallam Lake Nature Preserve is a perfect introduction to the Roaring Fork Valley.

If history is your thing, plan to visit the Wheeler/Stallard House Museum for a look at the city's history from its silver mining past to the present. Or you can simply explore the city on foot. Stroll through downtown to find art galleries, unique shops and restaurants offering everything from hamburgers to sushi.