



## Natural Capital Investment Fund

### Grow Your Bottom Line with Energy Efficiency

**Natural Capital Investment Fund** provides education, consulting and financing to small businesses for renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements in West Virginia and southwestern Virginia.



#### What can NCIF do?

- Coordinate energy audits and feasibility studies
- Prepare grants for energy-related projects
- Make loans to pay for improvements
- Refer you to additional resources and assistance
- Help you market your energy improvements

#### How does this help my business?

Energy improvements are an investment that can have a big payoff for small businesses through:



Reduced operating and maintenance costs.



Lower environmental impact.



Increased cash flow so you can compete and grow.

#### NCIF's Project Checklist

- Interview you about your business operations and challenges.
- Explain the audit and funding process.
- Arrange and share the cost of an audit by a certified engineer.
- Clarify the recommendations and payback period proposed by auditors.
- Help you prepare grant and rebate applications, such as REAP.
- Coordinate site visits by vendors and funders, such as USDA.
- Refer contractors, suppliers and installers.
- Assist with grant reporting.
- Share your story!



## Representative Projects

### Farm Goes Solar



Business Type: Farm  
Location: Moorefield, WV  
Energy Costs Prior To Working With NCIF: \$20,000 per year

NCIF helped the farm owner achieve savings with heating and ventilation improvements, and financed the installation of a solar PV system.

Annual Savings From Improvements: **31%** or **\$6,360 a year**

### Campground Saves Big



Business Type: Campground  
Location: Bruceton Mills, WV  
Energy Costs Prior To Working With NCIF: \$382,000 per year

The campground - with advisory support from NCIF - installed new hot water heaters, LED lighting, and energy reducing fixtures and equipment.

Annual Savings From Improvements: **12%** or **\$46,500 a year**

The total cost of both projects was reduced by a Rural Energy Assistance Program (REAP) grant, Federal tax credits, and accelerated depreciation. Ask NCIF how you can take advantage of these programs and rebates.

### For general inquiries or to get started with the program, contact:

Hannah Vargason, Energy Project Manager, at  
[hvargason@conservationfund.org](mailto:hvargason@conservationfund.org) or 304-870-2238.

### About Natural Capital Investment Fund

Natural Capital Investment Fund is a business loan fund that provides flexible financing and advisory services to triple-bottom-line enterprises, or those that generate environmental and social benefits as well as economic returns. Founded in 2001, NCIF is a U.S. Treasury-certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) affiliated with The Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit organization with a unique dual mission of land and water conservation, and economic development. [www.ncifund.org](http://www.ncifund.org)

Photo Credits: (Front) Window Caulking © Natalie Abbassi; and Joe Mearman © Energy Efficient Technologies. (Above from Left to Right) Farm with Solar Panels, Installation of Hot Water Heater © Natural Capital Investment Fund.

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