



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of Gov. John Hickenlooper

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## Workshop Series Across State to Detail Energy Savings Opportunities for Colorado Farmers and Ranchers

*Created through a partnership between state government and agriculture leaders, workshops to focus on energy efficiency, renewables and new technology*

**DENVER – Nov. 18, 2016** – The [Colorado Energy Office](#) (CEO) and the [Colorado Department of Agriculture](#) (CDA) today announced a series of workshops to be held across the state that will detail energy savings opportunities for Colorado farmers and ranchers. Created through a partnership between state government and agriculture leaders, the workshops will focus on energy efficiency and renewables.

Colorado farmers and ranchers spend more than \$400 million annually on energy, and the series of six workshops to be held late November through mid-December aims to help producers save money by utilizing new energy technology.

“As technology advances, energy efficiency and on-farm renewables are real opportunities for farmers and ranchers to improve bottom line, and this partnership will give folks operational details about how they can use clean energy to their advantage,” said Michael Turner, Energy Efficiency Programs Manager at the Colorado Energy Office. “Looking at energy use on farms holds potential to reduce cost of production and improve margins for farmers and ranchers.”

The workshops will feature presenters from Colorado State University, CDA and CEO. In addition, Colorado State Climatologist Nolan Doesken will give an update on climate and weather considerations, energy and agriculture. Former Colorado agriculture commissioners John Stulp and Don Ament are partnering to lead the workshop events. The series will be co-hosted by Colorado Livestock Association, Colorado Corn Growers Association/Colorado Corn Administrative Committee, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, Western Dairy Association, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Colorado Farm Bureau and Colorado Rural Electric Association.

Registration is free, and breakfast/dinner and refreshments will be served. To register and reserve a place, RSVP via the links provided below.

### Wednesday, November 30, 2016

7:30 am Lamar [lamarenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://lamarenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com)  
5:30 pm Burlington [burlingtonenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://burlingtonenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com)

**Thursday, December 1, 2016**

7:30 am Sterling [sterlingenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://sterlingenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com)  
5:30 pm Greeley [greeleyenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://greeleyenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com)

**Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

7:30 am Montrose [montroseenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://montroseenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com)

**Wednesday, December 14, 2016**

7:30 am Monte Vista [montevistaenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://montevistaenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com)

Workshop attendees will learn about agricultural energy use; how to save on energy costs; costs, benefits and opportunities for using renewable generation systems; and funding options to address barriers that prevent farmers from investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

If you have a question regarding the workshops, please contact workshop organizer Darrell Hanavan at (303) 981-4430 or [dhanavanco@gmail.com](mailto:dhanavanco@gmail.com).

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**About Colorado Department of Agriculture**

The Department of Agriculture works to strengthen and advance Colorado agriculture; promote a safe, high quality, and sustainable food supply; and protect consumers, the environment, and natural resources. See [www.colorado.gov/agmain](http://www.colorado.gov/agmain) for more information.

**About Colorado Energy Office**

The Colorado Energy Office works to improve the effective use of all of Colorado's energy resources and the efficient consumption of energy in all economic sectors by providing technical guidance, financial support, policy advocacy and public communications. Go to [www.colorado.gov/energyoffice](http://www.colorado.gov/energyoffice) to learn more.