

SPRENGER HEALTH CARE

WELLINGTON, OHIO, AND AMHERST, OHIO

Efficient Lighting Project



COMPANY BACKGROUND:

Sprenger Health Care Systems is a network of skilled nursing, assisted living, and independent living facilities in northeast Ohio and northern Indiana. Founded in Amherst, Ohio, in 1959, the company has grown from a 26-bed nursing home to 11 campuses serving more than 1,600 residents and families and employs more than 1,700 people. Sprenger Health Care has a passion for caring for the elderly and a longtime commitment to quality.

PROJECT GOALS:

Improve the lighting for residents and staff at the company's Amherst and Wellington facilities while reducing operating costs at these locations.

SOLUTION:

Replace outdated lamps and ballasts with more energy-efficient technologies, install occupancy sensors, and install LED exit signs.

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Sprenger Health Care completed lighting projects at two of its campuses in 2012: Amherst Manor in Amherst, Ohio, and Elms Retirement Village in Wellington, Ohio. An Efficiency Smart energy consultant worked with specialists from Buerger Energy to provide guidance in the selection of lighting fixtures on the basis of wattage and lighting output. Efficiency Smart also conducted an independent analysis of the project to ensure that Sprenger Health Care received the best value possible for its project.

Buerger Energy conducted the initial lighting audit and provided project management. Earthwell Energy Services, which specializes in efficiency improvement projects, was hired by Sprenger Health Care to upgrade all lighting fixtures at both locations. The project included replacing outdated incandescent lights with CFLs, installing HPT8 lamps and ballast, installing LED exit signs, and incorporating occupancy sensors into low-traffic areas. More than 3,000 lighting fixtures and sensors were installed between the two facilities.

As a result of the upgrades, each facility realized improved lighting quality and reduced energy consumption and operating costs. Additionally, the new lighting reduced the maintenance tasks required, which has improved the overall appearance of the facilities.

PROJECT FACTS AT A GLANCE

Annual kWh Savings:
173,800 (combined)

Annual Cost Savings:
\$15,200 (combined)

Lifetime Cost Savings:
\$99,800 (combined)

Rate of Return on Investment:
31% (average)

Payback:
3.05 years (average)

Annual CO₂ Reduction:
302,000 pounds (combined)

PROJECT PARTNERS

Mark Sprenger, Executive Vice President,
Sprenger Health Care

Bill Buerger, CEO, Buerger Energy

Shanna O'Grady, Energy Analyst,
Buerger Energy

Dennis Moore, CEO, Earthwell Energy
Services

David Taylor, Mayor, City of Amherst

Steve Pyles, Village Administrator,
Village of Wellington

