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## Westerly goes green

The Town of Westerly, with its world-famous Watch Hill coastal village, is among Rhode Islanders' favorite summer destinations. Rich in history, it has been home to Hollywood legends such as Clark Gable and business titans including Henry Ford. Today, over 22,000 residents call Westerly home, but the population nearly doubles during its peak summer season. And now, Westerly just became a little greener.

Left: The Department of Public Works garage received new energy efficient LED lighting which improves worker safety while saving electricity.

## 2,930 streetlights have been replaced with energy efficient LEDs

The Westerly town government is leading by example when it comes to clean energy, having completed several energy efficiency projects in the town hall, highway garage and police station. The 100-year-old town hall installed the most upgrades, receiving new insulation, weather stripping, a heating system and an efficient water heater, all which increase the warmth and comfort of the building. The three buildings also replaced their old incandescent lights with new energy efficient LEDS.



The town also replaced 2,930 streetlights with LEDs. All together, these improvements are estimated to save the town \$243,000 in energy costs each year.

But that's not all. The Department of Public Works building also received a new solar array, which will save the town another \$2,000 per month on electricity bills.

To finance these projects, Westerly used the Efficient Buildings Fund, a program administered by Rhode Island Infrastructure bank in partnership with the Office of Energy Resources.

The EBF provides borrowers with reduced interest rates and up to a 15-year repayment term.

Westerly's clean energy upgrades are to be commended and serve as a shining example for others to follow!

Left: The Department of Public Works building received a new solar array, which will save the town another \$2,000 per month on electricity bills.

For more information about the state's clean energy programs and financing opportunities visit <u>www.energy.ri.gov</u> and <u>www.riib.org</u>.



