



GREEN VEGETABLES AND GREEN STORES

YOU PROBABLY KNOW ALL ABOUT THRIFTY FOODS GREAT SELECTION OF GREEN VEGETABLES AT THEIR 22 B.C. GROCERY STORES, BUT DID YOU KNOW THEY'RE "GREEN" ELSEWHERE TOO?

Not only are they the first grocery store chain in B.C. to eliminate plastic grocery bags entirely, they also work in partnership with Tree Canada to plant enough trees to offset all carbon emissions from every new store they build. And the green thinking doesn't stop there.

Since 2005, Thrifty Foods has worked with BC Hydro on a range of Power Smart projects that to date have saved 1.15 gigawatts of energy—enough to power 115 homes—per year. At the same time, the company has received more than \$130,000 in incentives from BC Hydro to help offset the costs of implementing energy-saving technology.

THE GROCERY STORE CHALLENGE

"Grocery stores are incredibly challenging," says Jerry Wyshnowsky, Director of Store Engineering for Thrifty Foods Ltd. "They are very energy intense, primarily because of the amount of refrigeration we have to run 24-hours-a-day to keep food safe. At the same time, we need lots of good lighting so our customers can see our products, but that lighting can introduce heat back into spaces we need to keep cool—and that's just the beginning!"

A few years ago, Thrifty Foods turned to BC Hydro to help find solutions to these challenges, and more. "BC Hydro has been incredible," says Jerry. "Any questions we have, they can answer, and they've helped us find energy-efficient products that exactly meet our needs."

THE REVIEWS ARE IN

Ever since Thrifty Foods' Port Moody store opened on August 14, 2008, Store Manager Jerry Jagers says he's heard nothing but good things from his customers. "They don't necessarily know it's a totally energy-efficient store. They just tell me it's beautiful and it's comfortable to shop in. And that's exactly what I want to hear."

These products have included:

- energy-efficient lighting that gives off less heat while making products even fresher and more inviting
- heat-recovery systems that take unwanted heat from inside refrigerated spaces and use it to heat the rest of the store, and
- pull-down covers to keep coolers colder and the store warmer at night

In addition, the company got involved with BC Hydro's New Construction Program to make sure their newest store—in Port Moody's Suter Brook Village—was energy-efficient from the ground up.

THE PORT MOODY MODEL

The New Construction Program provides financial incentives, resources and technical assistance to help developers of new commercial and multi-residential building projects build-in energy efficiency from start to finish.

"Most often," says Port Moody Store Manager Jerry Jagers, "Thrifty Foods is retrofitting older, existing stores. But this is a brand-new store and we got to control what went in and choose all our lighting and freezers and ventilation systems and so on, so they all work together."

The result, he says, is a store that's not only light and bright, it's also saving the company a significant amount of money—"we estimate about \$1,500 to \$3,000 a month less on our energy bills than we would have had without all the energy-saving measures. That's a substantial reduction on our monthly operating costs."

NEXT ON THE GROCERY LIST

Jerry Wyshnowsky says Thrifty Foods' quest for energy efficiency will not end with retrofitting existing stores and outfitting new ones with energy-saving products.

He plans to continue working with BC Hydro on employee energy awareness and education. "It's a very important step," he says. "We need to integrate energy management and the idea of sustainability into our entire organization and make sure everyone—from senior management to our front-line people and our warehouse staff—are aware of that they can do to save energy."

CALL NOW

To sign up for a Power Smart program or to increase your current Power Smart activities:

- contact your BC Hydro Key Account Manager
- call 604 522 4713 in the Lower Mainland or 1 866 522 4713 elsewhere in BC, or
- visit bchydro.com/construction

