



EAST BLUFF COMMUNITY CENTER: FULL STEAM AHEAD TO SAVINGS

Since its founding in 2012, the East Bluff Community Center in Peoria has become the heart of the neighborhood — the go-to gathering place for recreation, celebration, community and connection. The Center hosts an array of services and classes for the East Bluff neighborhood, from basketball camp and after-school programs to a food pantry — even a hip hop radio station.

“We provide a nice, safe, clean venue for events. And we are the only building on East Bluff used for this purpose,” says Executive Director Jim Combs.

While the community center is alive with energy, its home in a century-old building allowed energy waste that tapped an already tight budget. On the road to energy efficiency, the East Bluff Community Center found an ally in Ameren Illinois.

Along with upgrading outdated T12 lighting to LEDs, the Center worked with Ameren Illinois to test steam traps. These automatic valves help steam heating systems work efficiently by releasing condensed steam and preventing the loss of live steam. Even one leaky steam trap can be costly, and the Center discovered that nearly half of their steam traps needed to be repaired or replaced.

The project gained steam when Ameren Illinois stepped up with incentives totaling **more than \$8,000**. Today, the new steam traps are generating an **additional \$675** in monthly savings that will allow the center to do more good in the neighborhood.

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— Jim Combs,
Executive Director,
East Bluff Community Center



\$8,100

in annual energy savings



Reduced natural gas use by more than **14,700 therms**



\$8,000+

in Ameren Illinois incentives

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