



Improving the energy and water efficiency of Orlando's buildings is critical to achieving our goals of economic and environmental sustainability. Commercial and multifamily buildings account for more than half of the total building energy use in Orlando, and the single largest contributor to air pollution. By driving energy and water efficiency in buildings, we can diversify the local economy and create high-wage jobs, save businesses and resident money on utility bills, improve Orlando's competitiveness as a global city, foster a cleaner environment and implement a model of innovative and pragmatic leadership for cities and states to follow.

### WHAT IS BENCHMARKING?

You can't manage what you don't measure. The majority of buildings in Orlando are not doing their part to identify how they perform and impact our local economy, public health and the environment.

Benchmarking is the act of measuring and tracking performance metrics. In the buildings industry, benchmarking programs create standardized metrics to measure the energy and water efficiency between similar buildings, just as miles-per-gallon (MPG) is used to compare efficiency between cars. This helps building owners gauge performance relative to others in the marketplace.

Benchmarking is a proven, flexible and free first step for businesses that set them on an efficiency path to save money, strengthen their brand and stimulate the local economy.

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

BUILDING OWNERS AND MANAGERS can lower their operational cost through on-going benchmarking and are able to better compare the performances between buildings to learn from each other about cost-effective investments. Studies have found an annual savings of 2.4%, with a potential ENERGY STAR score increase of 6 points over a 3 year period.

**BUYERS AND TENANTS** are able to make better-informed decisions about buildings they live and work in based on energy use and estimated utility cost.

**POLICYMAKERS** can better identify financial incentives to segments of the market where money is most needed and track progress of achieving sustainability goals.

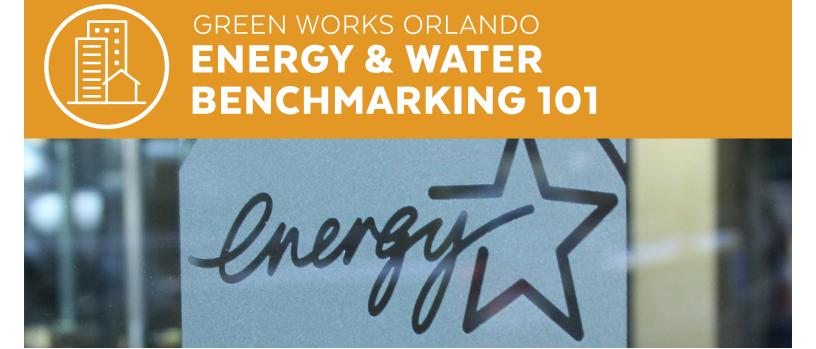
## GREEN WORKS ORLANDO GOALS BY 2040











### **HOW IS BENCHMARKING PERFORMED?**

The industry's most popular benchmarking tool is ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager is a free, web-based calculator that helps organizations measure and track utilities in their buildings, providing a 1-100 score of how efficient a building operates compared to similar buildings. Organizations have used Portfolio Manager to measure and track the energy and water use of over 400,000 buildings across all 50 states, representing over 35 billion square feet (more than 40% of the commercial market).

Buildings that receive a score of a 75 or above are eligible to receive the ENERGY STAR certification and recognition from the US EPA. In order to receive the certification, the Statement of Energy Performance must be verified by a registered architect or professional engineer, and submitted to the US EPA.

# IT'S EASY TO BEGIN BENCHMARKING

- Sign up online to the free ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) benchmarking tool.
- Add a property or building to your profile
- Collect information and data about your buildings characteristics, according to the space type(s). The information collected can vary based on the various space types (i.e. Hotel, Retail, Office, etc.)
- Collect at least 12 months of utility data (electric, gas, water, chilled water, etc) for each meter associated with your building.

- Enter the building characteristics and meter data into ESPM
- Werify the data you've entered into ESPM for quality assurance
- Generate and review your Statement of Energy Performance
- 8 Continue benchmarking your building each month for ongoing monitoring of your performance

For more information about how you can participate in energy and water benchmarking, visit orlando.gov/greenworks.





