Alpine Bank

ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2020



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The year 2020 has presented challenges the likes of which we have never seen. We are so proud of the communities we serve and the many ways the good people in our service areas have stepped forward to fill needs. We have featured only two of them in this publication, but encourage you to look for others in your own neighborhoods.

In October, The American Bankers Association recognized Alpine Bank with a Community Commitment award for the bank's participation with PC's For People, a non-profit that works to bridge the digital divide that became so apparent when schools were forced to move to online learning. We are humbled by this recognition and will continue to pursue this type of win/win opportunity to make a difference.

This version of our Environment Report strives to report Alpine Bank's ongoing commitment to not only reducing our footprint, but improving our communities by sharing what we've learned and encouraging feedback on how we can improve.

We know that our successes are really a reflection of the communities we serve. Without your support and loyalty, we would not exist.



Sincerely,

Bob

J. Robert Young, Chairman

STAYING GREEN

THE GRAND JUNCTION TOWER USES LESS POWER



One of the guiding principles of Alpine Bank's Green Team is a commitment to continuous improvement of the bank's environmental practices. This commitment lives large in the Tower, Alpine's flagship building, which dominates the downtown Grand Junction skyline.

As part of maintaining its certification to the globally recognized ISO 14001 standard for environmental management, Alpine Bank (the only U.S.-based ISO-certified financial institution.) has to undergo a detailed annual audit conducted by the internationally accredited firm KPMG.

The 2012 audit cited a lack of progress in energy conservation at the Tower. Jeff Bown, regional maintenance supervisor since 2013, has led a patient, strategic approach to implementing many energy efficient upgrades. "From 2013 through 2019, we've seen significant resource savings in all areas—water, gas and electricity."

- Since 2013, electricity usage has been reduced by 20 percent, which is a 480,000 kWh savings. "With the building management system fine-tuned, we shifted our focus to LED lighting retrofits and building envelope enhancements," Jeff said. "It's a phased, ongoing process." Full floor remodels include 100% dimmable LEDs on motion sensors. Because the Tower exterior is 75-percent glass, tint has been installed in many areas to mitigate solar gain. This modern film provides 99% UV reduction and lowers interior glass surface temperatures by 22.5 F degrees on sunny days.

- Natural gas usage is down 15 percent, a 9,000-therm reduction. And Jeff expects greater savings driven by last year's boiler plant retrofit. High efficiency condensing boilers and variable rate pumps now provide heat for the 11-story Tower.

- Installation of low-flow fixtures has led to a 13-percent decrease in water consumption since 2013 as well, saving 279,000 gallons of precious Colorado water in 2019 alone.

The bank will evaluate the challenge and opportunity for installing solar in the future.

"I couldn't be more proud of where we've taken this property," Jeff said. "The support of Alpine management, and the cooperation of our staff and tenants has been the key to success in all areas."

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SUPPORTING STUDENTS & REUSING A RESOURCE







Find out how you or your business can donate a computer and learn more about PCFP:

www.pcsforpeople.org/denverco

As COVID-19 required widespread school closures and distance learning for Colorado students in 2020, a digital divide became a chasm. An estimated 54,000 young people across the state lacked an appropriate device or internet access to participate in online learning.

In response to this critical need for computers to enable student learning, Alpine Bank joined with the nonprofit PCs for People (PCFP) to help close the gap. PCFP refurbishes and reuses computers, loading them with new software and making each available to people in need at a steeply reduced cost.

Alpine saw an opportunity to safely repurpose 400 of its computers, which were obsolete by bank standards. The bank's Information Technology team worked with PCFP staff to assure a rigorous process for secure data destruction, hardware sanitization and refurbishment of the computers. No landfill for these devices.

Next, Alpine Bank Durango Senior Vice President Beth Drum teamed up with PCFP to reach out to the Durango and La Plata communities for two successful August events. "We recognized that providing a computer does not overcome all the obstacles to online learning, however this grassroots initiative provides real solutions to bridge the technology gap and serves as a catalyst to ensure kids have the resources required for academic success," she said.

"We are so proud of the way community groups, businesses, schools, PCs for People and Alpine Bank all came together to help," said Alpine Bank Durango President Eric Eicher. "We hope our success can be replicated across the state to meet this critical need."

Driven to do more to connect students with online learning, Alpine employees also donated 20 personal computers to PCFP to refurbish and reuse—and keep out of Colorado landfills.

Alpine sees these green community successes as the beginning of a growing partnership with PCFP, which can make a profound difference.

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE







Get more information about opportunities to learn about sustainable urban agriculture, pull some weeds as a volunteer or donate to support this community resource:

www.growinggardens.org

Alpine Bank Boulder employees love working in their "green" LEED Gold-certified building. They also welcome the chance to get outside and get their hands dirty volunteering at Growing Gardens whenever they can. Growing Gardens is a remarkable nonprofit organization that has brought sustainable agriculture education and food donations to over 136,000 Boulder County residents over the last 20 years.

In 2020, the upheaval caused by COVID-19 has intensified the need for greater food security and hunger relief in the Boulder community. A team of Alpine Bank Boulder employees volunteered several shifts to maintain greenhouses and weed plots to help Growing Gardens meet this critical community need.

"We thought the idea of reconnecting people with the land and growing local food was awesome, so a number of us created a work crew and pulled one heck of a lot of weeds," said Susan Graf, vice president, Regional Business Development for Alpine Bank. "With the pandemic, there are so many more people needing assistance, and we were glad to play a small part."

Alpine Bank's commitment to environmental sustainability and to giving back to the Boulder community it serves align closely with the mission of Growing Gardens.

These shared goals spurred the bank to grow its support of the nonprofit, stepping up to become a financial sponsor and increasing participation in its annual fundraising gala. Alpine Customer Service Representative Esteban Rayos is also an active volunteer with Growing Gardens' "Cultiva" youth leadership program.

Growing Gardens' programs empower people of all ages, income levels and abilities by reconnecting them with their local food systems and teaching gardening, cooking and nutrition education.

OUR GOALS

A RECAP AND A LOOK AHEAD

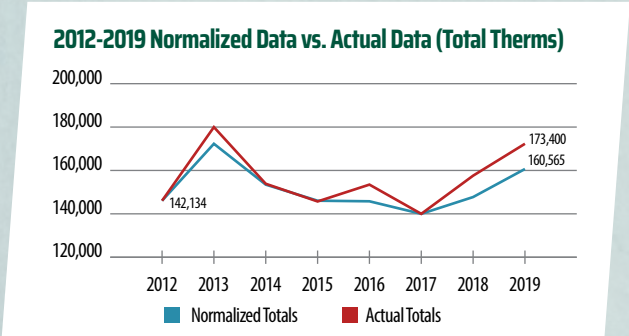
Since 2005, Alpine Bank has aggressively reduced its consumption of energy, paper and water. In 2012, building off early successes, Alpine Bank committed to continue consumption reduction initiatives bank-wide despite increasing customers, products, square footage, locations and employees. Two sets of energy and water measurements are reported: total raw units for the growing bank footprint and normalized "same bank" data for locations that were existing in 2012.

Compared to 2012 values, in 2019 Alpine Bank as a whole reduced total annual electricity consumption by 12.8 percent or 625,425 kilowatt-hours (kWh) even including periods of growth and new branch buildings opening. Natural gas consumption has increased 23.1 percent or 32, 892 therms and annual water usage has decreased since 2012 by 9.2 percent or 881,491 gallons. However, the increase in natural gas usage in 2019 is largely due to a very cold winter and the increased use of snowmelt equipment at several locations.

Weather can be a primary factor in building energy use, and every building has varying efficiency levels allowing the weather to cause seemingly random increases and decreases in energy use within a building. To better understand the bigger picture, Alpine Bank engaged Lotus Engineering and Sustainability, LLC (Lotus) to normalize energy data to account for weather fluctuations to the 2012 baseline. By normalizing data to a base year, Alpine Bank can understand how much energy was used by the "same banks" when compared to the same weather patterns in the base year. This discipline provides an accurate measure of the effectiveness of the bank's energy and consumption reduction initiatives rather than only evaluating raw unit usage. Please note, banks that opened after 2012 were not included in the analysis below.

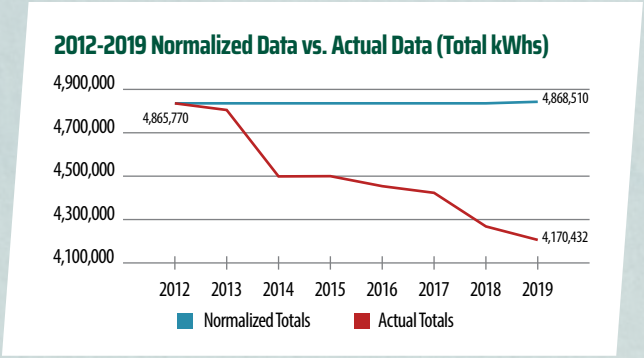
NATURAL GAS USAGE

The visual below depicts the actual natural gas usage (therms) used by buildings included in the weather-normalization analysis for 2012-2019. The red line shows Alpine Bank's increase in therms between 2012 and 2019 for normalized buildings (142,134 therms in 2012 vs. 173,400 therms in 2019). The blue line represents normalized energy use for natural gas. Weather normalized energy is the energy the building would have been expected to use under similar weather conditions as the base year (2012). In 2019, it was expected that Alpine Bank would have used 12,834 fewer therms (160,565 therms) than were actually used (173,400 therms) based on weather patterns.



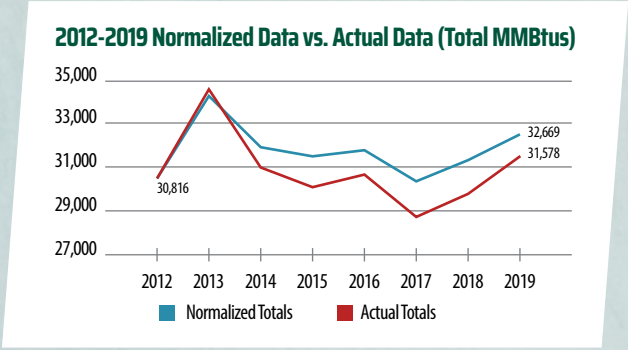
ELECTRICITY USAGE

The visual below depicts the actual electricity usage (kWh) used by buildings that were included in the weather-normalization analysis for 2012-2019. The red line shows that Alpine Bank experienced a reduction of more than 695,338 kWhs between 2012 and 2019 (4,865,770 kWhs in 2012 vs. 4,170,432 kWhs in 2019). Since there is little correlation at any location between cooling degree days and kWhs for years 2012-2019, the expected electricity usage is generally level (as shown by the blue line). As such, this decrease can be largely attributed to energy efficiency.



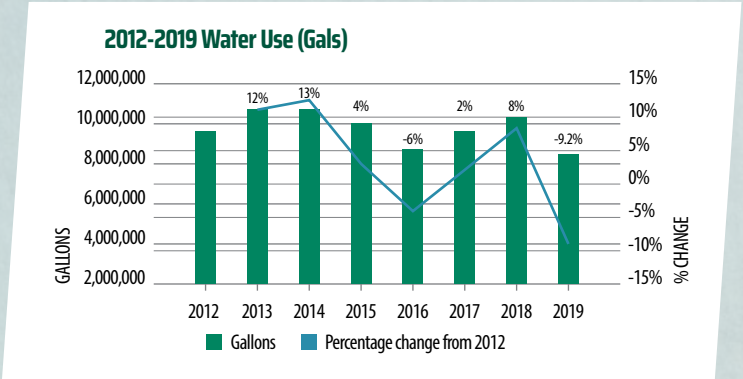
THERMAL USAGE

The figure below combines all energy usage into million British Thermal Units (MMBtus) for 2012-2019. As shown, Alpine Bank experienced a slight increase in total MMBtus during that time (30,816 MMBtus in 2012 vs. 31,570 MMBtus in 2019). In 2019, it was expected that Alpine Bank would have used more energy than it did due to the weather patterns. The difference can be associated with successful energy-efficiency efforts.



WATER USAGE

Water usage was not normalized for weather. As shown in the figure below, Alpine Bank's water usage has fluctuated up and down with an overall decrease between 2012 and 2019 of 9.2 percent (881,491 gallons).



Moving forward, Alpine Bank will continue to track progress, assess impacts, pursue water and energy efficiency measures, and promote employee involvement to ensure continual improvement in their environmental performance while enhancing the quality of life in the communities it serves.

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS

Colorado Environmental Leader

EPA Green Power Partner

Certifiably Green Denver

ISO 14001 Registered

International Green Industry Hall of Fame

Green Business Certified

actively green

Resource Wise

High Country Conservation Center

Alpine Bank offers a variety of consumer and business products to help our customers make energy and resource improvements to their everyday lives. In addition to offering a suite of green checking accounts and services, Alpine Bank launched a group of green-lending programs that can also provide environmentally conscious customers with green investment options.

HOME EQUITY LOAN OR LINE OF CREDIT

Use the equity in your home to generate your own clean and renewable energy or use it to make cost-saving energy efficiency improvements. For energy-reduction home improvements, we'll give you a rate discount on your home equity loan or line of credit. Watch your monthly utility bills shrink by installing: Solar electric or solar thermal energy systems, Geothermal heat exchange systems, ENERGYSTAR® home appliances and Xeriscape landscaping. You may also be able to take advantage of utility rebates and government tax credits.

ELECTRIC, HYBRID AND FUEL-EFFICIENT VEHICLE LOANS

Make your drive time greener by purchasing an electric or more fuel-efficient vehicle. Choose an automobile that is EPA rated with a minimum of 40 EPA MPG (hwy), and we'll take one-half percent off your loan interest rate.

BUSINESS AND C-PACE

We offer a variety of commercial green loans for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy including community solar. Additionally, Alpine Bank is a registered capital provider for the Colorado Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Program. It enables owners of eligible commercial and industrial buildings to finance energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water improvements. Please visit www.alpinebank.com/personal/personal-loans/green-lending.html or contact your local Alpine Bank to learn more about green loans for your business needs. For more information regarding C-PACE, please visit www.copace.com.

Rates and terms are subject to current market conditions and Alpine Bank underwriting requirements; other restrictions may apply.

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER NMLS#414674 | MEMBER FDIC

Here we highlight three Colorado environmental organizations on a rotating basis. For a list of more environmental resources, visit:

alpinebank.com/community/green-initiative.html

RECYCLE COLORADO

This nonprofit's goal is to ensure more than 50% of Colorado's current waste stream is diverted to reuse/remanufacturing or compost by advancing infrastructure, end markets and policies in waste reduction, recovery and diversion. Contact Programs Director Laura Levesque at laura.lc@recyclecolorado.org.

recyclecolorado.org

THE ALLIANCE CENTER

Demonstrating sustainability in action, mobilizing change agents to accelerate solutions and bringing people together to solve systemic problems all drive the work of the Alliance Center. To learn more about their programs—Climate+Democracy, Living Laboratory and Best for Colorado, contact Brenna Simmons-St. Onge at bstonge@thealliancecenter.org.

thealliancecenter.org

PURPLEAIR

Having developed a proven air quality monitoring solution for citizen scientists and air quality professionals alike, PurpleAir offers real-time air quality monitoring through a network built on a new generation of "Internet of Things" sensors. Email: contact@purpleair.com or citizensforcleanairgj@gmail.com

www2.purpleair.com/

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



Alpine Bank is committed to the needs of our customers, employees, shareholders and communities. We believe that our long-term health and success are directly linked to the health and quality of the natural environment. We endeavor to continuously improve our environmental performance and environmental management system, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prevent pollution by adopting and promoting:

RENEWABLE RESOURCES

RESOURCE-EFFICIENT PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND PRACTICES

COMMUNITY OUTREACH, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

Through our actions, we aim to influence and improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. Periodic internal audits and management reviews of our environmental objectives and targets help to assure that our actions are consistent with our policies and compliant with all applicable environmental regulations and compliance obligations. Finally, we communicate our environmental policy and actions with our communities, and we welcome their participation.

We encourage our community members to review our Green Team initiative online at alpinebank.com or email us with your thoughts and ideas at GreenTeam@AlpineBank.com.



Alpine Bank

Neenah Classic Crest Papers
ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS STATEMENT

Alpine Bank saved the following resources by using Neenah Classic Crest Paper, made with recycled fiber, and processed chlorine- and acid-free:

- 0.351 tons of fresh (green) wood, which is equivalent to 2.11 trees.
- 170 gallons which is enough water for .12 clothes washers operated/year.
- .88 BTUs which is enough energy to power 1.05 residential refrigerators operated/year.
- 7.6 pounds of solid waste, which would fill .00035 garbage trucks
  910 pounds of CO2, which is equivalent to .0832 cars/year.

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