Retail buildings—including stand-alone stores, malls, and shopping centers—account for nearly 16% of commercial floor space and consume more than 18% of all energy used by commercial buildings. This list provides the top tools and resources recommended for capitalizing on energy efficiency savings in food service and grocery buildings.

You can find the resources below on the Better Buildings website at https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/alliance/sector/retail-food-service-grocery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Resource/Tool</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upgrade interior lighting</strong></td>
<td>▶ The <a href="https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov">Interior Lighting Campaign (ILC)</a> is a recognition and guidance program to help facilities achieve savings from high-efficiency interior lighting solutions.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| **Retrofit or replace rooftop HVAC units** | ▶ Participate in the [Advanced RTU Campaign (ARC)](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) and retrofit or replace existing RTUs to save $900-$3,700 per unit annually.  
▶ Explore the [RTU Incentives Database](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov), which lists utilities offering incentives for RTU replacements/retrofits.  
▶ [Retrofit or Replace](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) Toolkits are available for evaluating and managing RTU inventories and making the business case for high-efficiency replacements or retrofits. |
| **Utilize Energy Management Information Systems (EMIS)** | ▶ Learn how [Energy Management Information Systems](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) can enable significant energy savings, often with rapid payback.  
▶ Join the [Smart Energy Analytics Campaign (SEA)](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) to uncover energy-saving opportunities and improve building performance for the long run. |
| **Learn more about financing energy projects** | ▶ Search the [Financing Navigator 2.0](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov), an online tool offering financing solutions for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.  
▶ Explore FREE [financial literacy courses](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) available from the Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA) for retail energy professionals, retail finance professionals, and energy/sustainability professionals across sectors. |
| **Add green language to leases** | ▶ Landlords and tenants can incorporate green aspects into their leases using resources from the [Green Lease Leaders](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) program, collaboratively transforming buildings into higher-performing ones. |
| **Apply advanced refrigeration technologies** | ▶ Watch this [Advanced Refrigeration Technologies webinar](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) featuring the latest research from the National Renewable Energy Lab and the North American Sustainable Refrigeration Council, and access case studies and other resources in the [Advanced Refrigeration Technologies for Energy Savings Toolkit](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov). |
| **Explore proven Solutions from Better Buildings Food Service & Grocery partners** | ▶ [The Wendy’s Company](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) developed its Smart Family of Designs portfolio to provide development options to franchisees, including buildings that fit into smaller footprints and have features that promote energy efficiency.  
▶ [Shari’s Café & Pies](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) achieved significant reductions to both energy and water use with a mix of equipment replacement, process changes, and employee education.  
▶ [Whole Foods](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) utility offered incentives to building owners and tenants for energy efficiency upgrades.  
▶ [Food Lion’s](https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov) is incorporating energy reduction projects into a comprehensive approach for corporate project proposal and planning. |
### Additional resources for food service equipment

- **ENERGY STAR** qualified products, guidebooks, and factsheets can help restaurant owners improve the performance of their facilities and equipment while reducing energy costs.
- Visit the **ENERGY STAR** program’s website for restaurants, which provides building energy management and measurement resources and tools.
- The [Consortium for Energy Efficiency's (CEE) Commercial Kitchens Initiative](https://www.cee.com/) has thousands of evaluation studies, market characterizations, and relevant efficiency documents.
- The [Food Service Technology Center (FSTC)](https://www.foodservicetechnologycenter.org/) is a leader in commercial kitchen energy efficiency and appliance performance testing.
- The [National Restaurant Association's Conserve Sustainability Education Program](https://www.nraes.org/conservesustainability) offers a roadmap to help operators with useful sustainability information.