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## Conservation efforts power Maryland Energy Administration loan program

Baltimore Business Journal - by [Sue Schultz](#) Staff

Nonprofits, businesses and local governments in Maryland could get financial help to become more efficient in their energy use.

Gov. Martin O'Malley and the Maryland Energy Administration said Monday AirTran Airways \$1.5 million in loan funding will be made available to support projects that reduce energy use.

Participants have until November to apply for the loan. The projects must be able to pay back the loan in energy savings in seven years or less. Funding will come from the Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program.

"This is an incredibly attractive financing opportunity, since loans are repaid through the cost savings once energy efficiency investments have been put into place," said Malcolm Woolf, director of the Maryland Energy Administration, in a statement.

The loans come amid new state energy initiatives to reduce energy consumption by 15 percent by 2015.

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