September 2006

Rebuild Michigan

Partner News

Rebuild Michigan, part of the U.S. Dept. of Energy's Rebuild America program, is designed to foster partnerships, which will promote increased energy efficiency and renewable energy use within communities. The program focuses on community-based energy planning to insure that local needs are met and that a sustained local effort is established.

Community partnerships develop comprehensive energy use strategies and organize a coalition to work towards fulfilling community energy goals. The partnerships identify energy efficiency opportunities in commercial, institutional and multi-family buildings and encourage installation of improvements that will yield the highest energy and cost savings.

MI Dept. of Labor & Economic Growth Energy Office

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► Community Partnership Update ◄

REBUILD TRAVERSE CITY has seen great growth within their community partnership. Since becoming a Rebuild Community Partner in 2004 they have more than 2.5 million square feet of buildings under analysis, and have enrolled twenty partners with energy improvements being achieved each month. The Grand Traverse Heritage Center has completed their building's glass retrofit and is currently planning a lighting retrofit for the building.

REBUILD MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY again offered an Energy Star dorm room demonstration to showcase energy efficient appliances and computer equipment to all incoming students during the 2006 fall semester. The Energy Star room was toured by about 10,000 visitors, a new high.

CITY OF MARSHAL sent six staff members for energy auditor training from Detroit Edison so they could offer introductory energy evaluations to commercial facilities within their community. The city plans to conduct free evaluations on many buildings throughout the upcoming quarter. Also, the city plans to distribute educational materials on energy conservation to over 4,500 residential customers within the municipal electric utility's service area.

► Funding Opportunities ◄

Rebuild Michigan Community Partnerships RFP

Public and non-profit organizations may submit proposals for grants up to $24,900 to form a Rebuild Michigan community partnership in their community. Public housing agencies are not eligible under this solicitation but can submit proposals under another solicitation specific for them. Proposals are due September 18th, 2006. To request a copy of the RFP, please contact Tom Krupiarz, at (517) 241-6184 or takrupi@michigan.gov.

Public Housing Commission Rebuild Michigan Partnerships RFP

Public Housing Agencies may submit proposals for grants up to $24,900 to promote and establish with other partners, including other MI Public Housing Commissions, a Rebuild Michigan community partnership with the State Energy Office. Proposals are due September 18th, 2006. To request a copy of the RFP contact Tom Krupiarz, at (517) 241-6184 or takrupi@michigan.gov.

► Financing ◄

The Michigan Municipal Bond Authority has updated their program brochure from the Bureau of Bond Finance. The brochure describes financing programs available to Rebuild Michigan clients and other public entities and is available at wwww.michigan.gov/mmba

►REBUILD MICHIGAN PARTNER UPDATE◄

Since January 2006 the Rebuild Michigan Program has enrolled a total of thirty-three new public agency partners. The table to the right lists the most recent program partners, the square footage they have committed to energy improvements, and potential energy savings. The Rebuild MI team completed Introductory Energy Evaluations for thirty clients identifying the areas where energy use can be reduced in facilities and if a technical energy analysis is recommended.

To view the complete list of new clients please go to www.michigan.gov/eorebuild and click on Rebuild MI Energy Services.

Since September, 2003, 220 school districts, local governments, and public housing authorities have become part of the Rebuild Michigan program. Enrolled partners have pledged a total of 134,713,035 square feet to energy efficiency projects, with estimated annual cost savings of $29,643,045 and estimated investment of $237,104,052.

Public building owners seeking help in reducing their energy use through cost effective improvements may contact Tim Shireman at (517) 241-6281.

Name	Square Feet	*Potential Annual Energy Savings (MMBTU)
Hopkins Public Schools	236,130	4,723
Kalamazoo Public Schools—Magnet	128,476	2,570
City of Mt. Pleasant	140,580	5,623
City of Niles	99,284	3,971
Stephenson Area Public Schools	132,480	2,650
Republic—Michigamme School	21,656	433
Public Schools of Calumet-Laurium at Keweenaw	243,980	4,880
City of Roosevelt Park	15,428	617

* These numbers were calculated based on the Rebuild America website and may not reflect the actual annual energy savings achievable.

►VILLAGE OF MACKINAW CITY RECEIVES WORKSHOP INCENTIVE◄

The Michigan Energy Office sponsored both statewide and regional energy efficiency and renewable energy workshops, which targeted public building owners. During the past year, up to $2,500 was available to Michigan public and non-profit organizations that could plan and hold a workshop and also, report outcomes and request re-imbursement of pre-approved expenses by September 1st.

On May 18-19th, 2006 the Village of Mackinaw City took advantage of the Michigan Energy Office Workshop incentive and hosted the, "Mackinaw City Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy Conference". Their conference was tailored for administrators of local governments and school districts in the area with an interest the possibilities of bringing new and proven technologies into their facilities.

Many areas of energy efficiency/renewable energy were covered during the two days including; street lighting, vehicle maintenance, heating/cooling, wastewater treatment, solar and wind power and traffic control. The workshop also offered case studies from Taco Bell and Western Michigan University along with tours of the Mackinaw City Indoor Recreation Center and Wind Turbine.

The workshop received high praise from the ninety people in attendance and fifteen vendors. Mackinaw City along with their sponsors plan to host the conference again next year.

Mackinaw City has recently invested in wind turbines and modern lighting as means to reducing their energy consumption.

►Energy Smart Schools Update◄

Michigan EnergySmart Schools Project sets goals and implements energy-saving strategies that save money, helps children learn about energy, and creates improved teaching and learning environments. Energy is the second largest item in a school's budget. EnergySmart Schools recognizes there are tremendous opportunities to save additional energy dollars in Michigan's K-12 schools. Research shows schools which broadly invest in energy conservation improvements can reduce their overall energy costs by as much as twenty-five to thirty percent.

Rebuild Michigan, partnering with the National Energy Education Development Project (NEED), offered financial incentives for Michigan public K-12 schools for the 2006-2007 school year. Up to $6,000 was available to eligible schools for energy education faculty workshops and educational materials for students. School districts enrolled in the Rebuild Michigan program were eligible to receive the Michigan EnergySmart School incentive. In order to receive funding the school district must be committed to integrating Energy related curriculum into their classrooms beginning in September 2006.

Many schools also take this opportunity to start after school programs or clubs composed of students who work with school officials to lower their buildings energy use. Students help facility directors by conducting building energy audits and educating fellow students in simple energy saving measures they can use in daily activities. The following schools were awarded grants for the 2006-2007 school year.

Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District was awarded $6000 in EnergySmart Grant funds and plans to conduct teacher workshops on implementing NEED curriculum materials into their middle and high school science curriculums. Inland Lakes School District received a $5,797 grant from the Michigan Energy Office. School officials plan on conducting one workshop on implementing NEED curriculum materials into the district's science curriculum. Inland plans on forming a "Green Team" to make energy recommendations after having their high school students conduct energy audits on district buildings. They will also have high school students teach energy efficiency and renewable energy to elementary district students using the NEED curriculum materials. Three additional grant awards are in process and will be announced in the next newsletter.

►Rebuild Publications◄

Product Energy Efficiency Recommendations (web)

Recommended efficiency levels, cost-effectiveness examples, and other buyer aids for commonly purchased products.

Contact:
Federal Energy Management Program
U.S. Department of energy
rebuildorders@rebuild.org

Misperceptions of Lighting Design

This publication in newsletter form discusses four common misperceptions of lighting design and provides recommendations to help overcome them. The Light Edge Inc. is a Rebuild America Business Partner.

Contact:
Michael Morse
Mike.morse@thelightedge.com

A Guide to Geothermal Energy and the Environment

This guide updates information on geothermal energy use, particularly electric power production, for a wide range of environmental issues and offers pictures, graphs, and charts that help to place the potential benefits of expanded geothermal energy use in perspective.

Publications are available in the Rebuild America Solution Center at www.rebuild.gov

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically please e-mail Brandy Minikey at bjminik@michigan.gov

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►ENERGY EVENTS◄

Renewable Energy Workshop: Building a Solar Panel System
September 9, 2006

Pierce Cedar Creek Institute, Hastings

Contact: 269-721-4190

Michigan Solar Tour

October 2-6, 2006

GLREA Energy Demonstration Center, Dimondale

Contact: www.glrea.org
1-800-434-9788

Campus Sustainability Day IV Webcase

October 25, 2006

MSU, MI

Contact: www.ecofoot.msu.edu

NextEnergy Conference: Advancing Energy Diversity Across the Globe
October 23, 2006
8-5:30 pm
NextEnergy Center, Detroit

Contact:
www.nextenergy.org

35th North American Association for Environmental Education Annual Conference
October 10-14, 2006

St. Paul, MN

Contact: www.naaee.org

Salt of the Earth Conference

October 19-22, 2006

White Point, Nova Scotia

Contact: www.eecom.org