

# ENERGY TIDBITS

October 2006

Change A Light to an Energy Star compact fluorescent on October 4. Take the pledge at [www.energystar.gov/changealight](http://www.energystar.gov/changealight)

2006 Great Lakes Interfaith Energy Conference will take place on October 12, 8:00-5:00 at Calvin College in Grand Rapids. The conference is for leaders in the faith community, youth, facility managers, those concerned about environmental justice, and those concerned about energy efficiency and energy issues. Contact: <http://www.miipl.org/>

Tomorrow's Energy ...Today! is a solutions based event bringing together early adopters of advanced energy systems with technology providers and manufacturing suppliers. Society of Manufacturing Engineers and NextEnergy are partnering on 2 conferences. On October 23 "Advancing Energy Diversity Across the Globe" will be held at the NextEnergy Center ([www.nextenergy.org](http://www.nextenergy.org)). This event will explore how the advanced energy markets in a number of world markets are finding success in commercialization of new technologies. On October 24-25 "Manufacturing ...Powering Energy's Future" at the Ford Conference Center ([www.ccc.ford.com](http://www.ccc.ford.com)) will help manufacturers learn how they can play a role as a future supplier.

Michigan Solar Tour of sustainable homes and buildings will take place on Saturday, October 7, 10 am - 4 pm at various locations statewide including Ann Arbor, Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Marquette, Traverse City, Northwest Michigan & Southwest Michigan. [www.glrea.org](http://www.glrea.org).

Governor Granholm has announced that 61 awardees have been selected by the Michigan Strategic Economic Investment and Commercialization (SEIC) Board to share more than \$100 million from the first round of the 21st Century Jobs Fund initiative to create jobs in Michigan's emerging technologies. The 21st Century Jobs Fund is a \$2 billion, ten-year initiative for competitive-edge technologies in life sciences, alternative energy, advanced automotive materials and manufacturing, and homeland security/defense. Proposals approved include the following: 25 (\$45.7 million) for life sciences, 4 (\$8.9 million) for alternative energy, 26 (\$37.3 million) for advanced automotive materials and manufacturing, and 6 (\$9.3 million) for homeland security/defense. List of awardees is available online at [www.michigan.org/21stcentury](http://www.michigan.org/21stcentury)

Crystal Mountain will be paying for wind energy credits for a chairlift at the ski resort. Crystal Mountain will still purchase its electricity from a local provider, but will also purchase wind energy credits from Renewable Choice Energy. Jim and Chris MacInnes at Crystal Mountain say they have a long-term plan to eventually power the entire resort with renewable energy. "It is one of our core values to be good stewards of the environment," said Crystal Mountain President Jim MacInnes. MacInnes says he was first fascinated with wind energy some three decades ago upon constructing a wind-power generator while studying at the University of California, Irvine.

Replacing the Green Roof at Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center has been added to the photo gallery at [www.uheac.org/photo%20gallery.html](http://www.uheac.org/photo%20gallery.html). Also check out the solar and wind energy installation pictures.

United Solar Ovonic has confirmed plans to build a 2nd factory in Greenville that is expected to begin operation in mid-2008. When United Solar Ovonic announced plans in March for its first Greenville plant it said it might build up to 5 more plants in the city. The new plant will be part of a 95-acre complex in Greenville's new industrial park. The first plant is expected to open in late 2007. The new plant will employ about 200 people -- about the same number as the first plant.

Great Lakes Bioneers Conference will be held on October 20-22 at Northwestern Michigan College (<http://www.glbconference.org/>) & Wayne State ([www.sustainabledetroit.org/bioneers](http://www.sustainabledetroit.org/bioneers)) including a live satellite downlink of the Bioneers in San Rafael, CA ([www.bioneers.org](http://www.bioneers.org)).

Solar Energy Production from a Decker Home can be viewed at : [http://www.deckerhomes.com/2006\\_Parade\\_Lot26DV/2006\\_model\\_home.htm](http://www.deckerhomes.com/2006_Parade_Lot26DV/2006_model_home.htm)

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Energy Summit 2006 will be held on Oct. 20, 8-5 at the Fetzer Center, WMU. Manufacturers wanting to take a big bite out of their energy costs and learn about current technologies are invited. Among the morning speakers will be R. Neal Elliott, program director for agriculture and industry at the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Environment and Karen Harbert, Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs, DOE. After lunch, the breakout sessions will feature tracks for management, facilities, process, and technology. [www.mteckvcc.com/programs/energy](http://www.mteckvcc.com/programs/energy)

2007 Energy Star Home Grants are available to licensed residential builders in Michigan. Five grants up to \$8,000 each will be available for an Energy Star rated home. Applications must be submitted by Dec. 15, 2006. [www.michigan.gov/eoresidential](http://www.michigan.gov/eoresidential)

US Agriculture Secretary Johanns has announced the award of \$17,510,887 in Section 9006 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Program Grants to 375 recipients in 36 states. Projects receiving funding include those that use energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies including wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal. The 9006 program has been successful in the last four years leveraging \$80 million in USDA grants into nearly \$900 million in projects. <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal?contentidonly=true&contentid=2006/08/0329.xml>

Green Built™ Program is now statewide. Any member of the Michigan Association of Home Builders now has the opportunity to become certified and to have their homes certified through an independent, third party rater. [www.greenbuiltmichigan.org](http://www.greenbuiltmichigan.org)

Go Solar Grand Rapids! Information Seminar will be held on October 14, 10:00-11:30 at WMEAC offices. Introductory Renewable Energy Seminars will be held on November 4, 9 AM - 5 PM at the Environmental House in Ann Arbor. [www.glrea.org](http://www.glrea.org) or 800-434-9788

Energy Smart Schools energy education grants totaling \$23,797 from the Michigan Energy Office will be awarded to Allen Park Public Schools, Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District, Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District and Inland Lakes School District. The energy education grants will be used to introduce energy efficiency and renewable energy curriculum into classrooms. Curriculum materials and teacher training will be provided by the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project, a Rebuild America strategic partner.



Prior issues of Energy Tidbits are at:

[www.michigan.gov/energyoffice](http://www.michigan.gov/energyoffice) under Publications.

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