Rebuild Michigan

April 2009

Partner News

Rebuild Michigan 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.

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▶ Community Partnership Update ◀

Warm Training Center recently hosted two workshops for commercial building owners. A workshop entitled "Make it Green to Improve Your Bottom Line" was held on February 24, and attracted 22 owners. On March 17, a workshop entitled "Re-Energize Buildings, Systems and Behaviors" was held with 17 participants. Additional workshops are being planned for the coming months. For more information contact Diane Van Buren Jones, WARM Training Center at dvbjones@warmtraining.org

Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center recently closed out their Rebuild Michigan Community Partner grant (RMCP). Their accomplishments include: hosting three energy efficiency seminars attracting 90 participants, completing seven introductory energy evaluation (IEE) reports, and beginning implementation of a three-year action plan. For more information on UHEAC contact John Batdorf at john@uheac.org

Michigan Suburbs Alliance recently completed their start up Rebuild Michigan Community Partnership (RMCP) grant. They completed 3 IEE reports for building owners and a three-year action plan. The MSA recently was awarded a second-year RMCP Challenge grant to continue program activities in Southeastern Michigan. For more information on MSA contact Brittany Galisdorfer at Brittany@suburbsalliance.org

Escanaba Housing Commission completed one energy accounting workshop at the Negaunee Public Housing Commission; an additional two workshops are being arranged with other MI PHCs. Escanaba has begun work on two introductory energy evaluations. One for Paw Paw PHC and the other for the Ann Arbor PHC. The IEE's should be completed by the end of April or early part of May. For more information contact Mary Lynn Sweeney of Escanaba PHC at mlsweeney@harbortower.org

Quick Updates:

Michigan GREEN completed four IEE reports for commercial building owners in their area. The sites included two libraries, a university and a local business. For more information please contact Doug Russell of MI GREEN at drussell@michigangreen.org

Urban Options successfully completed a commercial energy efficiency training session in Lansing, MI. Six different energy efficiency seminars were presented throughout the day. For more information, please contact Jennifer Binkley-Powers at jpower@northernoptions.org

Northern Options was successful in partnering with DTE Energy and Wisconsin Public Power to bring a commercial energy efficiency seminar to more than 30 people on March 16. For more information please contact T.J. Brown of Northern Options at tjbrown@northernoptions.org

►REBUILD MICHIGAN PARTNER UPDATE◄

Since January 2008 the Rebuild Michigan Program has enrolled 69 new public agency partners. The table to the right lists the most recent program partners and the square footage they have committed to energy improvements. The Rebuild MI team completed Introductory Energy Evaluations (IEEs) for these clients identifying the areas where energy use can be reduced and recommending a more detailed technical energy analysis, if appropriate.

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

Since January, 1998, 560 school districts, local governments, and public housing authorities have joined the Rebuild Michigan Program. Enrolled partners have pledged more than **112,163,600** square feet to energy efficiency retrofit projects.

Public building owners that are seeking help in reducing their energy use through cost effective improvements may contact Tim Shireman at (517) 241-6281 or at shiremant@michigan.gov.

Public Agency	Enrolled Sq. Footage
Imlay Community Schools	363,981
Mid Peninsula School District	59,000
Morley Stanwood Public Schools	250,996
City of Bloomfield Hills	41,860
City of Eastpointe	128,474
City of Grosse Pointe	15,506
City of Manistee	116,000
City of Three Rivers	77,648
City of Westland	258,291
Michigan Municipal League	39,091

►FEATURED PUBLICATIONS◄

New State-wide Net Metering Program

The Michigan Public Service Commission has established a statewide net metering program, required by Public Act 295 of 2008, also known as the Clean, Renewable and Efficient Energy Act. The Commission also approved electric interconnection and net metering rules.

http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,1607,7-159-16393_38274-126210--,00.html

Community Wind 101: A Primer for Policymakers

Community Wind 101 is intended as a primer on community wind for policymakers and clean energy advocates, based on a survey and synopsis of the best literature in the field. "Local ownership plays a major role."

http://www.ef.org/docs/CommWind_web.pdf

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant: *Michigan Initiative*

This is an informational website created by the MI DeLEG Bureau of Energy Systems to supply potential grant recipients and the public with guidelines and funding allocations for the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) portion of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act 2009.

http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-25676-211624--,00.html

Publications are available on the DeLEG Bureau of Energy Systems *Publications* page at www.michigan.gov/energyoffice or from the above URLs.

►Going Green Breathes New Life into Older Buildings◄

With the talk that the world needs to become "greener, it's no surprise that the focus has turned to the buildings in which we live and work. While newer, more energy, efficient buildings are starting to become more prevalent, older buildings are also breathing a new life, increasing their energy efficiency, and going "green".

Venerable buildings line our Main Streets throughout Michigan; many are listed as historic structures on the National Register of Historic Places and tell the tale of the pioneering spirit of a town and its citizens. Built generations ago by skilled trades-people and talented artisans, these buildings are a fine example of craftsmanship, artistry and pride. However, older buildings are often regarded as being energy inefficient and unable to perform to their potential. Today, the progressive movement to "go green" and sustain our existing building stock is aiding in the revitalization of these structures, allowing them to be retrofitted with modern, energy efficient technology in lighting and HVAC systems and to be weatherized. As a result, such turn of the century buildings are reducing their utility consumption and cutting energy costs, while at the same time, retaining their architectural integrity and becoming more environmentally-friendly.

In February, the Rebuild Michigan Program conducted an energy audit on the City Hall building for the City of Manistee. The 1905, Beaux-Arts style building, once functioned as the Post Office for the city, was recently renovated in 2003 and retrofitted with energy efficient light fixtures, programmable thermostats, high efficiency boilers, improved insulation, weatherization measures, new windows, and occupancy sensors. In addition to the renovation, the two year project also included installation of state of the art information technology in the form of new computers, networks, and a phone system which transformed the century old building into a modern facility. As a result of the renovation, the historic building functions more efficiently and retains its decorative ornamentation and architectural character. The City of Manistee made headlines with their new, modern infrastructure, in the online magazine 'State Tech' , where the City Hall was featured in an article titled *City Hall Makeovers*, which discussed tech-savvy, aesthetically pleasing city centers across the nation that rank high with citizens and staff.

Richard Moe, President of The National Trust for Historic Preservation, was once quoted saying, "The greenest building is the one that's already built." In our current economic crisis, the nation is at a critical juncture for becoming independent of foreign sources for our energy needs. At the forefront is the new administration's focus on implementing energy efficiency measures within existing buildings. Moreover, in Michigan the majority of our existing building stock encompasses older buildings. Likewise, nearly all of these buildings can be retrofitted with energy efficient technology. All things considered, older buildings are the backbone to our Main Streets; from the Queen Anne house on the corner to the Italianate commercial business in downtown—existing buildings abound us!

In summary, becoming more energy efficient makes common sense, coupled with, implementing these cost cutting measures into our older buildings is the most practical approach to going green.

For further information on 'going green' in your historic or older building(s), please contact Jessica Williams, Bureau of Energy Systems at williamsj28@michigan.gov.

►Energy Savings Tips◄

An ENERGY STAR labeled computer uses 70% less electricity than computers without this designation. If left inactive, ENERGY STAR labeled desktop computers enter a sleep mode and use 4 watts or less of electricity. Spending a large portion of time in low-power mode not only saves energy, but helps equipment run cooler and last longer. To maximize savings with a laptop, put the AC adapter on a power strip that can be turned off (or will turn off automatically); the transformer in the AC adapter draws power continuously, even when the laptop is not plugged into the adapter.

For more energy saving tips, go to: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/

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►ENERGY EVENTS◄

Green Today, Jobs Tomorrow

May 11, 2009
Lansing Center

Lansing, MI
http://migreenjob.com/

Greening the Heartland Conference

May 31–June 2
Cobo Center

Detroit, MI
www.greeningtheheartland.org

The 9th Annual Mayor's Green Fair

June 12, 2009
Downtown Ann Arbor

Ann Arbor, MI
http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-25676_25678-208752--,00.html

2009 Michigan Energy Fair

June 26-28, 2009
Manistee County Fairgrounds

Onekama, MI
http://www.glrea.org/events/MichiganEnergyFair2009/index.html

GreenTown Conference 2009

July 23, 2009
Grand Valley State University

Grand Rapids, MI
www.greentownconference.com

Advertise your future energy efficient events with the Rebuild Michigan Partner Newsletter!

*If your school district, community, or local facilities are hosting an energy event and you would like to advertise your event, email your requests to Stephanie Epps at eppss@michigan.gov and see your area's event in the next Rebuild MI Partner News.

If you would like to cancel your subscription of the newsletter, please email Stephanie Epps at eppss@michigan.gov