



LOCAL CIRCUIT

SPRING 2010

Renewable program celebrates 10 years

Our power supplier's voluntary residential Renewable Energy Program celebrates its 10th year in 2010. The program enables customers to make voluntary purchases of renewable energy from their local utility. In 2009, more than 4,000 residential customers participated in their local utilities' programs, purchasing more than 23 million kilowatt-hours of renewable energy, or enough to power 2,600 average-sized homes.

By purchasing renewable energy, you support the use of electricity generated from environmentally friendly, renewable resources, such as wind, landfill gas and solar energy generated in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa.

The Renewable Energy Program is Green-e Energy certified to ensure customers get what they pay for. For more information on Green-e Energy certification requirements, visit www.green-e.org.

Energy Sources	Renewable Energy Program 2009 Actual	Renewable Energy Program 2010 Projected	Current WPPI Energy Overall Supply Mix
Renewable Energy	100%	100%	8%
Wind	66.6%	66.6%	
Biogas	33.2%	33.2%	
Solar	0.2%	0.2%	
Coal	0%	0%	67%
Nuclear	0%	0%	16%
Natural Gas	0%	0%	9%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

Wind energy is produced in Minnesota and Wisconsin; energy from biogas and solar energy is produced in Wisconsin. Actual figures may vary according to resource availability. For specific information about this renewable electricity product, visit www.wppienergy.org.



EPA announces new AV requirements

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced new requirements for audio/video (AV) products to earn the ENERGY STAR® label. AV products meeting EPA's new, more stringent specification will help protect the environment and reduce energy costs because they will be up to 60 percent more efficient than conventional models. The new requirements will be effective July 30, 2010.

If all AV products sold met the new requirements, Americans would save more than \$1 billion in energy costs annually while reducing greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of more than one million vehicles every year.

The new requirements include audio amplifiers, AV receivers, DVD players, Blu Ray players and more. To earn the ENERGY STAR label, AV products must consume less power when they are on and must power down automatically after a period of inactivity, using only small amounts of power to maintain settings and other features.

GreenMax Home completed

Energy-conscious homeowners John and Rebecca Scheller are making a statement that living and building net zero is the best way to reduce one's carbon footprint when it comes to building or renovating a home.

Through participation in WPPI Energy's GreenMax Home initiative, the Schellers recently completed construction on their net zero energy home (NZEH) in Stoughton, Wis.

A NZEH is one that produces as much energy as it consumes. The Schellers' NZEH combines renewable energy technologies with advanced, energy efficient construction and demonstrates common practices that any homeowner can undertake to enhance the overall efficiency of a home.

With the completion of their NZEH, the Schellers will monitor their energy use and behavior to ensure they meet their net zero energy goal. For more information, visit greenmaxhome.com.

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If you'd like to cut down on the paper mail you receive, consider signing up for paperless billing. Your utility bill will come to your email account rather than your mailbox. You can register for this service at our web site, www.newglarusutilities.com, or by contacting us directly.

An additional, convenient way to pay your bill is now available. Credit or debit card payments are now accepted at our web site, www.newglarusutilities.com, or when paying in person at our office. A \$3 convenience fee is charged for each transaction.

If you have questions about either of these services, please contact us.

Stay cool this summer

Summer's coming! Stay cool and comfortable without burning up your pocketbook with these energy and money saving ideas:

- Open the windows. On mild days and cool, dry nights, open your windows and let the outdoors do the air conditioning for you.
- Shut out the heat. Close shades, blinds and draperies on south- and west-facing windows to reduce solar heat gain during the day.
- Use a ceiling fan. Set fans to rotate counter-clockwise to push air downward and create a cooling breeze. Remember that fans cool people, not rooms – so you'll save money by turning fans off when rooms are unoccupied.
- Limit indoor cooking on warm days, or just fire up the grill. Use smaller appliances for smaller meals, such as a toaster oven or microwave.
- Reduce appliance waste heat. Run heat-producing appliances such as dishwashers and clothes washers at night or early in the morning to avoid adding heat and moisture to your home.
- Look for the STAR. ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances, electronics and lighting save energy and money compared to standard models.

Source: *Focus on Energy*