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GEO Newsletter - March

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Wind for Schools Inspires Students Across Colorado

Students across Colorado are getting excited about clean-energy technologies thanks to the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) and the Wind for Schools program.

The Wind for Schools program provides grants to schools to install wind turbines to provide them with clean energy and educational tools for students and the community. Because of this program, students experience firsthand the power generation process and the effects of wind energy. Participating schools receive a 60-70 foot-tall wind turbine that is installed on campus with the help of Colorado State University students who act as wind consultants and assist in the assessment, design and installation of the turbines at the host elementary and secondary schools.

"Students that take part in the program are energized and excited about the turbine and certainly take pride in it," said Ian Baring-Gould, National Coordinator of Wind for Schools. "We are seeing a huge expanded interest in wind technology and careers."

Burlington High School, one of eleven Colorado schools participating in the program, had two students so inspired by the program enroll at Colorado School of Mines to study wind and solar energy. Flagler High School also had two students enroll at Northeastern Junior College for their Wind Energy Technology program. In Parker, Ponderosa High School's award-winning environmental club, PeaceJam, held a dedication service for their turbine. According to club sponsor Debbie Ruiz, "PeaceJam students hope to make a positive impact in the community and the world by showing they can make a difference through renewable energy."

With high student interest, state-of-the-art technology, the ability to offset energy needs, and multiple opportunities for hands-on experience, more than 80 schools across the nation have installed these towering assets. Each turbine comes with classroom curricula, teacher training and science kits that can be utilized at the school.

Superintendent Gerald Keefe of the Kit Carson School District found several partners to help fund the project, including a \$5,000 grant from the GEO. "I definitely think it's a great addition to the school. The turbine is fantastic because it's more real than having kids look at another textbook or website," Keefe said.

In addition to being grateful that the program enables teachers to provide a more realistic educational experience, Keefe is also grateful for the opportunity the school has to generate their own clean electricity. Not only does the school use the turbine to produce clean energy for themselves, but also, to help power a nearby park, saving the community money on utility costs.

The Wind for Schools program was developed in Colorado with the support of, Wind Powering America (WPA), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the GEO. WPA and NREL launched the program with a mission to introduce wind energy to rural areas, and educate people about wind energy. With an expected 20 percent of the nation's electricity to be generated by wind energy by 2030, which would create three million jobs in the industry, they



are also hoping to spark children's interest in future wind energy careers.

For more information about the Wind for Schools program, [Click here](#).

Home owners can follow the lead of the Wind for Schools program and go "windy" to save money too. Rebates are available for home-owners interested in wind power by visiting RechargeColorado.com.

Governor's Energy Office Appliance Rebate Program Reopened

The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) is pleased to announce that it reopened the popular Recharge Colorado appliance rebate program on March 25th.

The program has been closed since mid-February; however some funds have been released due to the expiration of reservations in the system. Approximately \$100,000 in funding is now available on a first come, first serve basis.

The program offers rebates for ENERGY STAR® appliances, including clothes washers, dishwashers, refrigerators, storage water heaters and boilers. The GEO anticipates that funds will be exhausted quickly, and the program will be closed again when this happens. Be sure to review all rebate details prior to purchase as not all ENERGY STAR appliances qualify.

For more information, visit www.RechargeColorado.com or call 1-800-462-0184.

In addition to appliances, there may be other rebates available! The GEO has collected the most comprehensive resource of energy-related rebates and incentives available anywhere; use this tool to find Recharge Colorado rebates, federal and local incentives, and offers from manufacturers and retailers. Your search will also enable you to find Better Business Bureau (BBB) listed and accredited contractors from throughout the state. [Click here to get started.](#)

The Governor's Energy Office Launches Renewable Energy Development Team Program

The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) is pleased to announce the start of its Renewable Energy Development Team (REDT) program. The program supports the GEO's efforts in charting Colorado's future as a leader in clean, renewable energy. The program will identify renewable energy projects with the highest likelihood of successful development and to move eligible projects closer to success.

It is anticipated that over 200 projects will receive technical assistance from the REDT program. The program will not provide funding to applicants, but rather up to 120 hours of technical assistance will be provided.

In order to ensure optimal attention to each selected project, the REDT will limit the number of projects chosen. The program is intended to support projects that do not have the financial capabilities to move forward to an investor and/or project developer review stage without additional assistance. Applications for the REDT project will be moved through a stage-gate review process, designed to ensure that the projects with the best opportunity for success advance. Projects that reach the final REDT stage will be presented to a group of renewable energy project developers and potential investors.

What projects and entities are eligible for REDT assistance?

- Local governments, non-profits, utilities, and land owners are eligible to apply
- Projects must be located in Colorado
- A basic scope of the project must be available and an application must be submitted for consideration
- Eligible technologies and project types include the following distributed renewable electrical generation sectors, with a nameplate rating of 30 megawatts (MW) or less except where noted:
 - Biomass (non-toxic plant matter, animal waste and waste products, and methane from landfills or wastewater residuals only)
 - Small hydro (less than 10 MW)
 - Solar photovoltaic and solar thermal
 - Distributed Generation (under 30 MW) wind
 - Geothermal (direct-use applications and power generation, excludes heat pumps)

The application for this program is now online at RechargeColorado.com. For more information, and to access the application, visit the [Renewable Energy Development Team](#) page in the [Programs, Policies & Initiatives](#) section.

Offset Your Energy Use on April 18 - 24



Invest in New Carbon Offset and Clean Energy Projects in Colorado

The Colorado Carbon Fund (CCF) has a strong list of potential carbon offset and renewable energy projects in the pipeline for approval and funding, including innovative projects such as coal mine methane gas capture, anaerobic digestion plants, biomass and solar. These projects are, and always will be, located in Colorado communities. We just need the funds to develop them. That's the mission behind the CCF Earth Week Campaign. The campaign asks you - as an individual, business or organization - to voluntarily offset your emissions for the week of Earth Day (April 18-24).

How much are you talking?

- For an average Coloradoan, based on Sopris Foundation calculations, offsetting one's entire emissions for the week of Earth Day costs \$10, tax deductible;
- For a family of 4, \$40;
- An average small business of 15-20 employees can offset transportation and energy use for \$100. If you'd prefer more

specific calculations, visit our website, call us at (303) 866-2264, or email at ccf@state.co.us.

You don't have to wait: Purchase offsets today. Offset a week of energy use now at www.coloradocarbonfund.org and credit Earth Week Offsets in the dropdown menu (how you heard about us).

There are rewards:

- All participants will be recognized in print, social and/or website media;
- Organizations will be invited to a reception at the Governor's mansion on June 24 where we'll announce results and acknowledge participants.

For every dollar received, a dollar will be spent on building clean energy projects in Colorado that create jobs, reduce emissions, and bring Colorado's clean energy future that much closer to reality: That's the real reward. If you're wondering how to commemorate Earth Day, make a real

difference here at home: Earth Week Offsets.

Geothermal Working Group Update

The Geothermal Working Group (GWG) of Colorado invites you to attend its first meeting of 2011 on April 28 at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. The primary focus of the GWG is to address barriers to geothermal utilization and identify pathways that will lead to project development.

The full-day meeting will embrace the three major sectors of geothermal development: geoexchange (ground source heat pumps), geothermal electricity production and direct use. The program is designed to engage public and private interests in discussions that will accelerate economic development in the most responsible and timely manner. The primary objective of the meeting is to generate a slate of action items that the group will pursue in the months ahead to advance the opportunities and business case for Colorado's geothermal resources.

The meeting is open to the public and free of charge. A complimentary lunch, sponsored by [WaterFurnace International Inc.](#), is included, but you must RSVP by April 13 to reserve your seat. To RSVP and for complete meeting details, including a preliminary program schedule, please [click here](#). A limited number of exhibit spaces are available.

The GEG will hold a total of six meetings from April through September to pursue its mission of addressing barriers to geothermal utilization and identifying opportunities for project development. The GWG encompasses three main sectors of geothermal development - geoexchange (ground source heat pumps), geothermal electricity production and direct use. Two full-day regional meetings and four half-day local meetings are being scheduled to engage public and private interests in discussions that will accelerate economic development in the most responsible and timely manner. Each meeting will generate action items to achieve short term goals as identified by the group.

The first regional meeting will take place April 28 at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science and it will include tracks for all three sectors (see details above). The remaining meetings have been tentatively scheduled as follows:

- Local #1, June, Golden - Geo Electricity Production
- Local #2, July, Beaver Creek/Vail - Geoexchange, Direct Use, Geo Electricity Production
- Local #3, August, Denver/Loveland - Geoexchange
- Local #4, August, Gunnison - Geo Electricity Production
- Regional #2, September, Denver - Geoexchange, Direct Use, Geo Electricity Production

Registration for the April 28 Regional Meeting opens on March 25. Complete details on all meetings will be available soon at the GWG web page. For additional information, please contact Ben Northcutt, [email](#), 970 846 0303.

Participate in Governor Hickenlooper's Bottom-Up Economic Development Plan

Governor Hickenlooper invites you to participate in the Governor's Bottom-UP Economic

Development Plan. Take the survey and/or attend one of the meetings in your region.

The online Survey is found [here](#). For information on Governor Hickenlooper's Bottom-Up Economic Development Plan, and to access the tools & resources on the OEDIT website, please visit www.advancecolorado.com .

Please remit any questions to input@state.co.us .

Energy Services Coalition Peak Energy Performance Workshop

Friday, May 20th, 2011 - 8:00 am - 3:30 pm
Redrocks Community College, Lakewood CO

The Colorado Chapter of the Energy Services Coalition in cooperation with the Colorado Governor's Energy Office is pleased to announce the Peak Energy Performance Workshop. The workshop will be held on May 20, 2011 at Redrocks Community College in Lakewood.

Better Buildings Today with Energy Savings Tomorrow!

- Learn how to meet sustainability goals
- Apply the most cost effective approach to your project
- Hear from your peers and experts in the field about their approach to more efficient and greener facilities and the cost savings that result!

Cost

\$75 per person (\$90 after May 1, 2011)

Students: First 25 students of any post-secondary institution FREE

For questions contact Steve Truebner - 303.898.8707 or Sandie Busby - 720.298.2863 or e-mail escoco@energyservicescoalition.org .

Beyond the Building: The Occupant Factor 201 Webinar, April 27

Your building is only as 'High Performance' as its occupants. But how do you get a handle on the human behaviors that impact energy consumption within the space? "Beyond the Building: The Occupant Factor 201" delves into the mysteries of the living, breathing, window-opening people. A designer, professor and anthropologist uncover the factors that drive individuals to work with, or against, their surroundings to conserve energy.

From the design process to post-occupancy evaluations and occupant training, this free 90-

minute webinar hosted by the GEO High Performance Building program will cover the basics of human behaviors within buildings, design strategies, post-occupancy evaluations and advanced planning. Architects, building owners, engineers, sustainability consultants and contractors are encouraged to attend.

At the end of the webinar, the participants will be able to:

- Propose strategies to increase occupant motivation to enhance energy performance
- Employ integrated design strategies to incorporate user needs into the facility
- Outline the benefits of a Post Occupancy Evaluation
- Identify how to utilize the results of the Post Occupancy Evaluation

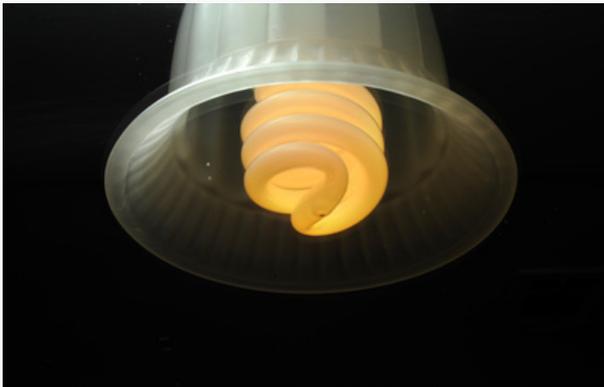
Speakers include:

- Kerrie Kannberg, LEED AP, Hutton Architecture Studio
- Marcel Harmon, ME Group
- Meredith A Banasiak, University of Colorado

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 27, 2011; 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. MDT

For more information and registration, please visit our [registration page](#).

Join a FREE Energy Savers Workshop



Summer is approaching. Beat the heat without breaking your bank! Come to a **FREE** Energy Savers workshop and learn low-cost energy-saving tips, coordinated by Colorado Interfaith Power & Light with support from the GEO. The workshop is directed to those 55+, but all are welcome to attend. Receive planning tools, printed material on cutting energy use and a **free**

compact fluorescent light bulb! Workshops are scheduled as follows:

4/7/11, 10 a.m. - Mulroy Senior Center, 3550 W. 13th Ave, Denver

4/9/11, 2 p.m. - Standley Lake Library, 8485 Kipling St, Arvada

4/10/11, 10:30 a.m. - St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 9203 S. University Blvd., Highlands Ranch

4/12/11, 5 p.m. - Wheat Ridge Library, 5475 W. 32nd Ave, Wheat Ridge
4/13/11, 7 p.m. - Columbine Library, 7706 W. Bowles Ave, Littleton
4/14/11, 5 p.m. - Edgewater Library, 5843 W. 25th Ave., Edgewater
4/18/11, 10 a.m. - Longmont Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Ave, Longmont
4/19/11, 1 p.m. - The Link Rec Center, 1295 South Reed Street, Lakewood
4/20/11, 7 p.m. - Evergreen Library, 5000 Highway 73 (at Buffalo Park Rd.), Evergreen
4/21/11, 7 p.m. - Arvada Library, 7525 W. 57th Avenue, Arvada
4/27/11, 6:30 p.m. - Belmar Library, 555 S. Allison Pkwy, Lakewood
4/28/11, 6:30 p.m. - Lakewood Library, 10200 W. 20th Ave., Lakewood

For registration and more information on upcoming workshops please visit www.coloradoipl.org and click on Energy Savers or call 303-429-5792.

Sustainability Workshop Lead by APA Colorado Sustainability Committee

Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2011

Time: 3 - 5 p.m. Social hour to follow

Where: The Alliance Center, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 1536 Wynkoop, Denver

Putting Sustainability into Your Plans: Learn how two Colorado communities have taken "sustainability" from a buzz word to concrete actions. Join the Colorado APA Sustainability Committee to explore how Fort Collins and Golden, Colorado have engaged stakeholders to create a vision and clear plans to incorporate sustainability throughout their community. Learn about their successes and lessons learned.

Join us in an interactive discussion of components of a sustainability plan and how your community can translate some of these successful approaches.

2 CM credits will be applied for and seating is limited to the first 35 R.S.V.P.'s received. So, please R.S.V.P. early to E-mail: denise@apacolorado.org

Energize your High Performance Building Projects with GEO Resources

Free and available at your desk, the GEO High Performance Building program offers a library of tools, resources and case studies benchmarking best practices across the state. From a building owner's manual to Flex Energy Tools, these downloadable documents are designed to reduce the energy impact of new and major renovation projects.

Please visit the [Program Resources page](#) on the GEO website.

Upcoming Events

4/04/11 - Delivering LEED Platinum in Denver: A Case Study of the TCO Office Building
Denver, CO

4/05 - 07/11 - Grant Writing for Woody Biomass Utilization Projects
Glenwood Springs, CO

4/07/11, 10 a.m. - Energy Savers Work Shop - Mulroy Senior Center, 3550 W. 13th Ave.
Denver, CO

4/08/11 - Energy 101 with Rebecca Johnson - CU
Boulder, CO

4/09/11, 2 p.m. - Standley Lake Library, 8485 Kipling St,
Arvada, CO

4/09/11, 2 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Standley Lake Library, 8485 Kipling St,
Arvada, CO

4/10/11, 10:30 a.m. - Energy Savers Workshop- St. Andrew United Methodist Church,
Highlands Ranch, CO

4/12/11, 5 p.m. - Energy Savers Work Shop - Wheat Ridge Library, 5475 W. 32nd Ave
Wheatridge, CO

4/13/11, 7 p.m. - Energy Savers Work Shop - Columbine Library, 7706 W. Bowles Ave
Littleton, CO

4/14/11, 5 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Edgewater Library, 5843 W. 25th Ave.
Edgewater, CO

4/15/011 - Sustainability Planning: Building the Business Case with KJ McCorry - CU
Boulder, CO

4/18/11, 10 a.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Longmont Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Ave
Longmont, CO

4/19/11, 1 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - The Link Rec Center, 1295 South Reed Street
Lakewood, CO

4/20/11, 7 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Evergreen Library, 5000 Highway 73 (Buffalo Park Rd.)
Evergreen, CO

4/21/11, 7 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Arvada Library, 7525 W. 57th Avenue
Arvada, CO

4/22/11 The Promise of Energy Efficiency - ReTool - Leeds School of Business - CU
Boulder, CO

4/22/11 - Designing for Sustainable Transportation with Dom Nozzi - CU
Boulder, CO

4/27/11 - Sustainability Workshop Lead by APA Colorado Sustainability Committee
Denver, CO

4/27/11, 6:30 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Belmar Library, 555 S. Allison Pkwy
Lakewood, CO

4/28/11 8:30 a.m. - Geothermal Working Group Regional Meeting- Denver Museum of Nature &
Science - Denver, CO

4/28/11, 6:30 p.m. - Energy Savers Workshop - Lakewood Library, 10200 W. 20th Ave
Lakewood, CO

4/29/11 - Measuring Sustainability with Rumanda Young - CU
Boulder, CO

5/06/11- Becoming a Sustainability Coordinator with Kai Abelkis
Boulder, CO

5/13/11 - Introduction to Smart Grid with Rebecca Johnson - CU
Boulder, CO

5/20/11 - Energy Services Coalition Peak Energy Performance Workshop
Denver, CO

5/20/11 - Sustainability for K-12 School Districts with Ghita Carroll - CU
Boulder, CO

May - August Solar Training - -Solar Hot Water Design, Natural Building, Passive Solar
Crestone, CO

Ongoing - Executive MBA Classes at CU, Denver - Upcoming class 2011 - 2013
Denver, CO

Ongoing High Performance Building Workshops and Webinars
Denver, Colorado

Ongoing SEI workshops - Building for the Future: Sustainable Home Design Online

Ongoing Solar Energy International's Renewable Energy Education Workshops

Ongoing Sustainability Series Meetings - Tuesdays @ 6 p.m. Wynkoop
Denver, CO

For more information go to [Events Calendar](#).

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