



COMMUNITY NEWS RELEASE

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**ENERGY AND YOU WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY THE WEST PENN POWER SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND**

GREENSBURG, PA – February 4, 2011 – As part of a grant provided to the Borough of Chambersburg, PA to support the municipality's residential energy efficiency programs, the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund will sponsor ENERGY AND YOU: At Work and At Home. This daylong workshop for home and business owners who want to learn how to reduce energy consumption and costs will be held at Wilson College on Saturday, Feb. 12. The workshop, which will feature a keynote lecture, breakout sessions and a panel discussion, will be held in the Harry R. Brooks Complex for Science, Mathematics and Technology.

Brian Roche, consumer/investigative reporter and co-anchor for WGAL's News 8, will deliver the keynote address, "U.S. and the World." Roche will compare energy development, use and costs throughout the world before discussing what American consumers can learn from other countries that can save them money and help develop energy alternatives for the future.

Workshop participants will be able to choose from a variety of breakout sessions on such topics as:

**Getting Started with Solar Thermal.** Presenter Bill Mooney of Appalachian Energy Systems will discuss basic solar concepts for the homeowner, including solar water heating, solar heating, photovoltaic, solar lighting and solar cooking. He will discuss installation options, costs, payback times and other concerns.

**You See a Yard, We See Free Energy – Saving with Geothermal.** Presenter Jackie Martin of Martin's Refrigeration will present a basic synopsis of geothermal heating and cooling options, and the energy savings that can be expected.

**Building Performance Testing Procedures in Home Energy Audits.** Presenter Ken Zinn of Affordable Energy Now discusses the benefits of having building performance specialists conduct a professional home energy audit, which can uncover not only energy drains but also unsafe and/or unhealthy conditions that may exist in a home.

**After the Energy Audit: Now What?** Jon Kautz, Building Performance Institute energy auditor, will explore the top five fixes after an energy audit to find out which improvements provide that greatest savings for the investment.

**Lighting and Lighting Controls for Today's Energy-Efficient World.** Presenter Bob Shostek of the Hite Co. presents information to help home and small business owners learn how to maximize their energy saving potential by using today's technology for lighting, lighting control equipment and other commonsense applications, incorporating the PUC's Act 129 rebate programs and incentives.

**Rebates and Incentives: Solar is Finally Affordable.** Presenter Mike McKechnie of Mountain View Solar and Wind explains all of the solar energy installation incentives, credits and grants available to Pennsylvania homeowners and businesses, including solar electric and hot water systems.

**Choosing a Power Provider – PA Power Switch.** In this session, a representative of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission will guide participants through the process of selecting an electric provider. Attendees should bring a current electric bill (Note: *PA Power Switch* is not available to residents of the Borough of Chambersburg.)

**What is a Negawatt? An Introduction to Solar PV (Photovoltaic).** Presenter Len Lindenmeyer, an experienced energy systems designer, will cover how to own all of your own power - not just your DC (direct current) battery power – and also explore the two fundamental factors that influence how well a solar array might perform at your house.

**Home Energy Audits – A Do-It-Yourself Approach.** Architect Michael Ryan will explain how, with a base understanding of the principles of home energy, anyone can conduct their own home energy audit. He'll cover the basics of heat transfer and how homes should be designed to minimize heat loss, as well as acronyms, rating criteria and how they apply to individual homes. He will also share a checklist to help residents assess their home and prioritize energy efficiency upgrades.

The final event of the day is a panel discussion, “Experts Answer Your Questions,” from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Len Lindenmeyer will moderate. Panelists include Jackie Martin, Bill Mooney, Jon Kautz, Connie Kelly and Mike McKechnie.

Admission is \$10 per household and free for students with identification. Lunch is included with preregistrations taken by Feb. 6. After that, the cost of lunch will not be included.

Registration forms and a complete schedule with times and speakers can be found by clicking on “Energy and You Workshop Set for Feb. 12” at [www.wilson.edu](http://www.wilson.edu).

The workshop is co-sponsored by Wilson’s Fulton Center for Sustainable Living, the Borough of Chambersburg and the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund. For more information about the workshop, contact FCSL Program Manager Chris Mayer at 717-264-4141, Ext. 3247, or [christine.mayer@wilson.edu](mailto:christine.mayer@wilson.edu).

This project and many other clean energy initiatives are made possible by the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund. This fund invests in the deployment of clean energy technologies throughout the West Penn Power service region in Pennsylvania, invests in the use of renewable and clean energy, energy efficiency and conservation and attracts sustainable energy businesses to the Commonwealth. Learn more about how this fund is helping to green Pennsylvania at [www.wppsef.org](http://www.wppsef.org).

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