# New Frick Environmental Center opens Saturday, September 10th

How will your project change your community?

A cutting-edge building, the Frick Environmental Center is engineered to meet the Living Building Challenge and achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification. The new Center will enhance visitor experience while acting as a "living laboratory." The building will:

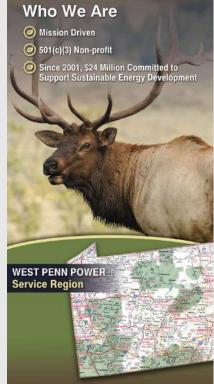
- Use 40% less energy than a typical building of its size in the northeast
- Power all electrical systems using power from solar panels
- Filter and treat all wastewater before releasing it naturally on site
- Be constructed using materials that are produced locally (whenever possible) and safe for both humans and the environment
- Balance a spirit that promotes appreciation and protection of the environment and a public space that is functional and welcoming

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy received a \$100,000 grant from WPPSEF for the Frick Environmental Center to help with the Living Building certification costs, geothermal heating and cooling, educational signage and solar PV. <u>Learn More.</u>





### Visit our website





# **Project Showcase**

Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) is working to complete feasibility assessments for three potential hydropower projects in Western Pennsylvania state parks. Moraine State Park and McConnell's Mill State Park would integrate hydroelectric generation equipment into existing dam structures to produce clean energy with the infrastructure that is already in place. The third project at Ohiopyle State Park considers producing electricity by installing a turbine into an underground pipe carrying water downhill.





WPPSEF is providing a \$20,000 grant to support these three feasibility assessments.

<u>Learn wore.</u>

**Mountain Watershed Association** (MWA) dedicated to protecting, preserving and restoring the Indian Creek and greater Youghiogheny River watersheds is conducting a comprehensive diagnostic energy



assessment of their office building in Melcroft. MWA received a grant from WPPSEF to offset the cost of their audit. MWA will require the energy assessment firm that will conduct the diagnostic energy assessment to provide MWA with a written comprehensive energy audit report and an implementation strategy to install the recommended measures to reduce MWA's utility costs while improving office comfort and safety. MWA will also work with WPPSEF to showcase their energy audit results with other non-profit organizations in the West Penn Power service region.

#### **Kudos**

**Excela Health** ranks among the nation's leaders in energy efficiency, and is one of only two health systems in Pennsylvania to receive the Energy to Care Award. The American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) of the American Hospital Association recognized Excela Health's efforts at its 53rd Annual Conference and Technical



Exhibition July 10 - 13 in Denver, and has invited Excela to share its methods for achieving energy savings with other health care providers throughout the coming year.

<u>Learn More.</u>

Kinzua Bridge State Park dedicates its new Visitor Center on September 15. LEED certification will be sought for the building, which includes water-efficient plumbing fixtures; a geothermal heating and



cooling system; regionally sourced materials with a high level of recycled content; sustainably certified wood; and the diversion of construction debris and waste to recycling centers instead of landfills. DCNR has been making significant investments in its facilities and attractions in the Pennsylvania Wilds. This visitor center is intended to complement our other regional investments, including the Nature Inn at Bald Eagle, the Elk Country Visitor Center, and the Wildlife Center at Sinnemahoning. It gives visitors the opportunity to spend several days in the region enjoying nature and the unique and special character of the area.

Learn More.

### **Videos**

The Quiet Ones video series continues with the development of five new WPPSEF videos to be released in 2017 as part of The Quiet

Ones series. This series was designed to show the essence of who we are and what we do and also to let you hear what our project partners have to say about us. WPPSEF is collaborating once again with Elliance, a Pittsburgh based digital marketing company with a passion for technology and a core sense of optimism.

Watch our current videos.

### **Events**

**Living Product Expo** I Crafting the Future of Materials September 13-15 I Pittsburgh, PA

The Living Product Challenge re-imagines the design and construction of products that function as elegantly and efficiently as anything found in the natural world.

This fall, the Living Product Expo is bringing together leading minds from every aspect of the green building movement to reshape the materials landscape, accelerate the pace of innovation and make Living Products

possible. Join them as they create strategies for designing healthier buildings for all project types and scales and work toward an industry-wide transformation to ensure a healthy sustainable materials economy for all.

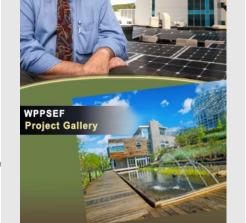
Learn More.

Kinzua Bridge State Park Visitors Center | Dedication September 15 | McKean County



Just off historic scenic highway Route 6, the 323-acre Kinzua Bridge State Park visitor center features a unique skywalk, interactive exhibits and many sustainable energy features in the new building. The facility is the location of the first 'PA Wilds Conservation Shop', a result of a public-private partnership with the non-profit PA Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship. The PA Wilds Conservation Shop sells PA Wilds-branded merchandise, as well as one-of-a-kind artisan wares from local artisans juried through The Wilds Cooperative of Pennsylvania. Shop proceeds will support the PA Wilds Center's business and community development programs and resources.

Learn More.



#### **WPPSEF Links**

**Project Gallery** 

Video Gallery

**Service Region** 

Leadership Team

**Apply for Funding** 

#### **Featured Links**

Frick Environmental Center

**Green Building Alliance** 

Keystone Home Energy Loan Program

**PA Environment Digest** 

PennSEF - Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Finance Program

Pennsylvania Environmental Council

Pennsylvania Wilds

Shaver's Creek Environmental Center



**Bioenergy Day** | Demonstrating the Benefits on a Local Level October 19 | Nationwide



Bioenergy Day 2016 aims to enable all organizations with a stake in bioenergy - business, academia, government and non-profit - to communicate its many benefits. This day unites organizations across

the country that support bioenergy. On October 19, participating organizations will open their doors to their communities to demonstrate the many benefits that bioenergy provides on the local level.

Learn More.

**Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA)** | Conference October 25 | Harrisburg, PA



The Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA) announces the sixth annual KEEA Energy Efficiency Conference. The KEEA

Conference 2016 connects advanced energy experts involved in utility program planning, energy policy, customer engagement, and emerging energy technology in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania is a national leader in energy production, manufacturing, and GDP, and has significant potential to be a leader in this innovative and growing sector of the economy. Explore opportunities, additional programs and policies that could take us well beyond the Act 129 energy efficiency and conservation targets. WPPSEF is proud to be a sponsor of this important energy event.

Learn More.

## **Breaking News**



**Do you want to keep up with WPPSEF?** If you want the most up-to-date information on sustainable energy investments in Pennsylvania, "Like Us" on <u>Facebook</u> and check us out at our new website. It is amazing what can happen among friends.

Sustainable energy enews is brought to you by the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund. We want to hear from you. Questions or comments about this publication can be sent to <a href="mailto:wppsef@ems.psu.edu">wppsef@ems.psu.edu</a>.

