



Connecting People

August 2018

In case you missed it, here are a few important things happening in sustainable energy around our region. If you have a project that needs financing, ask yourself, "How will my project change my community?" and then contact us.

High Performance Buildings



Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP) Carrick Library Built to Passive House Standards

Did you know that Pittsburgh has 90 neighborhoods? WPPSEF is providing CLP with a \$35,000 grant to support the construction of its Carrick Library to Passive House Standards. CLP's Carrick library is located at 1811 Brownsville Road in Pittsburgh will be the first certified Passive House library in North America. The library will be showcased as part of the North American Passive House Network conference being held at Pittsburgh's David Lawrence Convention Center during October 17-21, 2018 (another WPPSEF funded project). Passive House is a rigorous standard for energy efficiency, which reduces the building's ecological footprint. It results in ultra-low energy buildings that require little energy for space heating or cooling.



State College Community Land Trust (SCCLT) GreenBuild

The SCCLT GreenBuild homes on 1394 and 1386 University Drive in State College were sold on July 27. Both homes were certified by EnergyStar on July 24 and certification to EnergyStar's Race-to-Zero standards is underway. The team has organized a 3-month, post-sale review meeting on October 9 to discuss lessons learned and next steps. WPPSEF provided \$450,000 to help co-fund this project. GreenBuild was a unique project to build a pair of duplex homes with cost-effective green technology to help middle-income homeowners reduce energy costs over both the short and long-terms. The units are outfitted with high-efficiency HVAC systems, LED lighting and solar panels, but the biggest energy saver is the building envelope, which includes heavy insulation throughout the structures. Energy costs for each unit are estimated to be \$15 per month.



RE Farm Cafe Construction is Underway

Despite all of the central Pennsylvania rain, the slab has been poured, timber framing has begun and the siding is in the process of being stained. What is believed to be the first Living Building Challenge designed full-service restaurant built by the private sector is coming to Central Pennsylvania. RE Farm Café will be a farm-to-fork restaurant, nestled on 57 acres of farmland outside of State College, PA. WPPSEF has committed \$1.1M to support this project and to help move the market towards more sustainable places to work and live. WPPSEF believes that RE Farm will not only be a destination restaurant for its food, but also for its operational philosophy and business model by engaging the agricultural and sustainable energy sectors through its community education programs. This 5,000 square foot restaurant promises a unique dining experience as chefs perform in an open theater kitchen and cooks work in the organic greenhouses and fields for a more complete understanding of the farm-to-plate relationship. Patrons will be engaged in understanding the

connections between farming, food, energy use and how they can support healthier, regenerative practices.



Shaver's Creek Environmental Center Grand Reopening

Shaver's Creek Environmental Center is scheduled to reopen Labor Day weekend. Plan to attend to see the largest expansion and renovation project in its 40-year history. Each year, Shaver's Creek reaches more than 70,000 Pennsylvanians through school, team-building, and traveling naturalist programs throughout the Commonwealth. Shaver's Creek Environmental Center thrives on connecting people with wildlife. It is part of 7,000 acres of Penn State's woodlands that students utilize for classes, and non-releasable wildlife calls home. And it's undergoing major renovations to provide more educational opportunities. The project includes a new classroom, administrative offices, a lodge for exhibits and a welcome center. The center was awarded a \$35,000 grant from WPPSEF. It will be used to achieve LEED certification, and the installation of energy efficient items including insulated panels and special heating and cooling systems.

Sustainable Energy



PA Wilds Center to develop educational videos that highlight sustainable energy practices as part of regional tourism effort

The PA Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship, Inc. (PA Wilds Center), a regional nonprofit, received a \$32,800 grant from WPPSEF to develop, produce, and distribute educational videos that showcase the deployment of sustainable energy technologies and their impact in the Pennsylvania Wilds region. Tataboline Enos, Executive Director of the PA Wilds Center, said “Sustainable energy and stewardship is a core theme of the PA Wilds work; our brand principles talk about the importance of ‘cultivating the relationship between people and the environment’ and the PA Wilds Design Guide promotes practical, energy efficient building designs. The video format allows us to really tell a story, both in words and visually, on the power of sustainable energy practices and to build awareness and understanding.

Kudos



Frick Environmental Center Achieves Living Building Challenge Certification

After more than a year of extensive sustainability work, the shared project between the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and the City of Pittsburgh, received the Living Building Challenge (LBC) Certification, the world's most rigorous proven performance standard by the International Living Future Institute. The Frick Environmental Center is the first Living Building in the U.S. that is municipally owned and free and open to the public. To qualify, the Environmental Center must produce as much energy as it consumes annually, eliminate toxic and harmful chemicals, and collect and treat its own water.





SEF Hosts Largest Regional Sustainable Energy Event

WPPSEF supported Sustainable Energy Fund's 2018 Energy path conference held at DeSales University. Grid integration was this year's conference theme and the event is designed to nurture and stimulate sustainable energy awareness. Energy path 2018 was comprised of pre-conference energy camps for college students, a technical conference and expo for industry professionals and a Science Fair for grades 5-12. WPPSEF exhibited at the conference on July 26. This event, which is the largest sustainable energy event in the region, fits well into the WPPSEF mission to promote education associated with renewable and clean energy technologies. This year was at maximum capacity with over 300 attendees, 50 speakers and 30 exhibitors.

Sponsored Events



Wood Stove Competition to Focus on Automation and Electricity Generation

The fourth Wood Stove Design Challenge will be on the National Mall in Washington, DC from Friday, November 9 through Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Twelve teams will be competing. The 2018 event will be free and open to the public and includes rigorous testing of the next generation of technology that can make wood stoves consistently cleaner, more efficient, easier to use and, like solar energy, a renewable source of electricity. The Wood Stove Challenge also attracts teams from around the world and focuses energy and resources on innovation and improved performance.



September 2018

Mid-Atlantic Bioenergy Conference and Expo
 Convene at CityView
 Philadelphia, PA

[learn more >>](#)



October 2018

North American Passive House Network Conference & Expo
 David L. Lawrence
 Convention Center
 Pittsburgh, PA



October 2018

Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA) PA Energy Efficiency Conference
 Harrisburg Hilton
 Harrisburg, PA

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