



WPPSEF
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| SUSTAINABLE |
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Connecting People

June 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



GreenBuild - a Zero Energy Ready homes dedication

GreenBuild, a Zero Energy Ready duplex home from the State College Community Land Trust (SCCLT) was dedicated on May 18. WPPSEF provided \$450,000 to help fund this project. Over 500 visitors toured the new homes during the weekend open house to learn more about energy efficiency and sustainability practices. The new home owners were on hand to help cut the ribbon and share their experience with guests. SCCLT helps individuals and families in buying affordable homes in the borough. The plan to build homes that use renewable power to offset almost all of the annual energy consumption was designed by students at Penn State's Hamer Center for Community Design for the U.S. Department of Energy's Race to Zero Student Design Competition. 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. These homes are also a learning opportunity for the SCCLT. The units will each have a monitoring system that will collect data on energy consumption and show how much energy is saved. This information will be used to determine what features SCCLT will implement in future projects.



RE Farm Cafe at Windswept Farm - a special place with a steadfast commitment to the environment

RE Farm Café has caught the eye of the high performance building industry. 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. Stay tuned – the RE Farm Café design is complete, project financing has been secured, contractors are on-site, the build out has started.

Kudos

**Race to Zero
Student Design
Competition Winners**



Penn State places 1st at the 2018 Race to Zero Student Design Competition at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado. At the Suburban Single-Family Housing Contest of the U.S. Department of Energy Race to Zero Student Design Competition in April, Penn State was one of 40 teams representing 34 institutions and five countries. The annual competition provides the next generation of architects, engineers, construction managers, and entrepreneurs with the skills and experience to start careers in clean energy and generate creative solutions to real-world problems. It was this same competition several years ago that was the spark for the GreenBuild energy efficient duplex that is now a reality for the State College

Community Land Trust.

[Read More](#)

Events



July 2018

Grid Integration

The region's largest sustainable energy event.

DeSales University
Center Valley, PA

[learn more >>](#)



September 2018

Mid-Atlantic Bioenergy Conference and Expo

Convene at CityView
Philadelphia, PA

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October 2018

North American Passive House Network Conference & Expo

David L. Lawrence
Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA

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