

# Energy and Empowerment in Madison County:

How you can plug in to the Local Energy Landscape

## Energy and Empowerment List-Serve

Please contact organizations you are interested in directly. If you would like to join the Energy and Empowerment list-serve to receive updates, event information, announcements, and articles please contact [Tammy\\_clemons@bera.edu](mailto:Tammy_clemons@bera.edu) or [Megan\\_naseman@bera.edu](mailto:Megan_naseman@bera.edu)

## Energy and Empowerment Mini-Grants

Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service (CELTs) at Berea College offers mini-grants to support Energy and Empowerment Community-Based Research Service-Learning projects involving community partners, Berea College faculty, and students.

Contact [Ashley\\_Cochrane@bera.edu](mailto:Ashley_Cochrane@bera.edu) or [Megan\\_naseman@bera.edu](mailto:Megan_naseman@bera.edu) 859.985.3605

## Berea Bikes

Located in Berea College Alumni Building, on the bottom floor across from the Activities Room. The workshop is open 4pm-7pm Monday-Wednesday. Come to the workshop to learn bike care and repair. You can also rent bikes, depending on availability.

### **Contact:**

[Duane\\_Graves@bera.edu](mailto:Duane_Graves@bera.edu) or [Jessica\\_Korn@bera.edu](mailto:Jessica_Korn@bera.edu)

## Clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions for electricity demand

Three groups (Kentucky Environmental Foundation-KEF, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth-KFTC, and the Sierra Club) are working to prevent the East Kentucky Power Cooperative from building and operating a new coal fired power plant (called Smith 1) in Clark County. The groups are instead urging EKPC to deploy energy efficiency and renewable energy programs that can meet electricity demand, save customers money on their electric bills, and protect our health and the environment.

### **For more information call:**

KEF 859.986.0868,  
Madison County KFTC 859.986.1277

## Energy Efficient Enterprises (E3) of Mountain Association for Community Economic Development (MACED)

MACED works with small and mid-sized enterprises (for-profit and not-for-profit organizations) in the region. The E3 office provides non-residential energy audits that result in actionable recommendations and loan options.

### **Contact Person:**

Josh Bills, Energy Specialist [jbills@maced.org](mailto:jbills@maced.org)  
859.986.2373  
<http://www.maced.org/E3/index.html>

## Habitat for Humanity Green Building

A "green" Habitat for Humanity home is to be constructed in Berea, KY on a specially selected lot in Hope Estates off Scaffold Cane Rd. which will take advantage of sun/shade orientation for heating and cooling efficiency.

### **Contact Person:**

Layne Hawley, Habitat For Humanity,  
859.625.9208, [habitatcountyyaa@bellsouth.net](mailto:habitatcountyyaa@bellsouth.net)

## HomeGrown HideAways

HomeGrown HideAways is leading the construction of a code-approved EarthBag Dome home as well as a code-approved StrawBale & Cob art studio. Both of these projects are being constructed using locally-sourced materials and will use significantly less operational energy than comparably sized stick-framed structures. Natural Building Workshops are offered regularly.

**Contact Person:** Jessa Turner 859.333.0474

[Jessa@HomeGrownHideAways.org](mailto:Jessa@HomeGrownHideAways.org)  
[www.HomeGrownHideAways.org](http://www.HomeGrownHideAways.org)

## Impacts on Low-income Working Group (from the Energy and Empowerment gathering Feb. 08)

The group is meeting with organizations in Madison County which provide affordable housing services for low-income people. The goal of the current dialogue is to determine how the groups might expand programs related to low-income housing needs and energy efficiency through collaboration, greater awareness, additional resources and/or new programs.

### **Contact person:**

Gina Chamberlain [jakebera@yahoo.com](mailto:jakebera@yahoo.com)  
859.985.9526

## Kentuckians For The Commonwealth (KFTC) - Energy Working Group

Members of the Energy Working Group of the Madison County chapter of KFTC have participated in the city dialogue about utility rates and have designed and administered a survey to learn more about residents' energy literacy and how Madison County residents are impacted by rising energy costs.

### **Contact Person:**

Beth Bissmeyer at  
[Kathryn\\_bissmeyer@bera.edu](mailto:Kathryn_bissmeyer@bera.edu)

### **League of Women Voters (LWV) Recycling, local action on energy efficiency and renewable energy**

League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that promotes civic engagement and advocates on issues and positions, not candidates. LWV supports energy efficiency and clean energy as solutions to climate change, and supports city planning, land use and transportation options that limit the waste of natural resources. LWV maintains a white paper recycling station at Berea City Hall, and is in discussion with the City of Berea on a process to increase recycling participation and programs.

#### **Contact Person:**

Elizabeth Crowe, 859.985.0641

<http://lwvbmc.org>

### **Local Food Initiative**

LFI is working to promote a local food economy. Members have applied to the USDA for the capacity to accept foodstamps at the Berea College Farm booth of the Berea Farmer's Market.

#### **Contact:**

[Sarah\\_Paulson@bera.edu](mailto:Sarah_Paulson@bera.edu)

[Caitlin\\_McClanahan@bera.edu](mailto:Caitlin_McClanahan@bera.edu) or

[Tammy\\_Clemons@bera.edu](mailto:Tammy_Clemons@bera.edu)

### **Madison County Greenways and Trails, Inc.**

This group works to assist the communities and local governments of Madison County in creating, developing, and maintaining a system of multi-use, non-motorized trails that will interconnect the people of our county to their homes, businesses, historic sites, churches, schools, parks, and other places.

#### **Contact Person:**

Kris Farrey, Secretary

[madisonkytrails@yahoo.com](mailto:madisonkytrails@yahoo.com)

<http://madisonkytrails.org>

### **Safe Routes to School**

This is a group of Berea Community School parents promoting walking and biking to school and involvement from school and city officials to make walking and biking safer. The group has applied for a grant from Kentucky Safe Routes to School which will help with city and school bike and walk trail improvements, bike rack infrastructure, and education through participation in national Walk and Bike to School events.

#### **Contact Person:**

Becca Parrish, Berea Bike-Pedestrian Action Committee [Rebecca986@alltel.net](mailto:Rebecca986@alltel.net)

### **Sustainable Berea**

Sustainable Berea consists of more than 300 residents of the city who are working to increase the resilience of their community to the shocks of peak oil, climate change, and the instability of the national economy. In collaboration with students from five interdisciplinary programs at Berea College and other community groups and citizens, Sustainable Berea is preparing a Transition Plan that outlines steps the city can take to greatly reduce its use of fossil energy, while strengthening its local economy, reducing its vulnerability to economic and energy disruptions, and improving the quality of life.

#### **Contact Person:**

[Richard\\_Olson@bera.edu](mailto:Richard_Olson@bera.edu) or

[info@sustainablebera.org](mailto:info@sustainablebera.org) 985.1689

### **Union Church Sustainability Working Group and Solar in Berea Focus Group**

The Mission Board at Union Church has formed a Sustainability Work Group with four specific focus groups. The focus groups are: Bringing It Home, Framing It Up, Energizing our knowledge about resource use at Union Church, and Solar Power in Berea.

**Contact:** [Steve\\_boyce@bera.edu](mailto:Steve_boyce@bera.edu)

## Upcoming Events

### **Madison County Greenways and Trails**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays, 7pm
- Berea or Richmond Public Library
- Visit <http://madisonkytrails.org/> for the location of the next meeting.

### **Sustainable Berea Meetings**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30
- Visit <http://www.sustainablebera.org/> for the location of the next meeting.

### **Energy Pros Free Seminar:**

#### **High Performance Homes**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30
- Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Lexington
- Contact Ben Perry for more information [benperry@a-spi.org](mailto:benperry@a-spi.org)

### **Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC)**

#### **Madison County Chapter Meetings**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 7-9pm
- Child Development Lab (CDL) in the Berea College Ecovillage
- Contact Carissa Lenfert for more information [Carissa@kftc.org](mailto:Carissa@kftc.org)

### **Madison County Energy Expo**

- March 14, 2009
- Time TBA
- To be held at the Madison County Extension office in Richmond
- For more information, or if you are interested in participating contact Gina Noe at [gcnoe@uky.edu](mailto:gcnoe@uky.edu) or [Megan\\_naseman@bera.edu](mailto:Megan_naseman@bera.edu)