

Sustainability Scoop

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Summer Has Arrived!!!

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NYSDEC State Action Plan & Energy/Climate Solutions

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) received comments in winter of 2011 for the NY State Climate Action Plan Interim Report. As the NYSDEC incorporates comments for the final Plan, it's an exciting Plan with a State goal of 80 before 50— 80% reduction in 1990 greenhouse gas levels before 2050.

To achieve this goal, the plan states that NY must transform the way it makes and use energy, maximize efficiency and make a major shift toward zero-GHG emissions in electricity generation, smart electric transmission and distribution systems, low-carbon buildings, and zero-emission vehicles, and increase options for alternative modes of travel and land use. Did you know that the 321 MW Maple Ridge Wind Farm in Lewis County of NY is the largest wind farm east of the Mississippi? The Plan questions if NY could be the hub of clean technologies creating many green jobs while assisting in the 80 before 50 goal.

In addition to the state plan, the NYSDEC has several other energy/climate programs in place to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. NY has adopted to most recent California vehicle standard which will reduce greenhouse gases from vehicles 37% by 2016. The renewable energy portfolio standard requires 30 percent of the state's electricity to be supplied from renewable energy sources by 2015, and provides financial incentives to support development of renewable energy sources. The renewable energy portfolio standard has supported 39 large scale renewable projects.

The System Benefits Charge/New York Energy Smart Program is a charge on a consumer's bill from an energy utility. The proceeds fund public policy initiatives as promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy, assisting low-income customers, encouraging research and development and protecting the environment. To view all programs visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/43384.html>

Brownfields How to Guide Released!

In May 2011, Sustainable Long Island release of its 2011 Brownfields to Greenfields Manual: A how-to guide on brownfields redevelopment. The manual's revision was updated from the 2006 version. The purpose of the Brownfields "roadmap" is to provide an understanding of the brownfield redevelopment process and the opportunities available in New York. Brownfields to Greenfields is designed to provide information for local government officials seeking to facilitate brownfield redevelopment in their communities, citizens hoping to understand how the process affects them, developers and investors seeking to participate in this growing marketplace, groups that wish to facilitate the redevelopment process, and end-users of redeveloped property.

The manual provides information on: New York State, federal and private funding and financial incentives; technical assistance and liability protection available for the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites in New York State. See <http://sustainableli.org/what-we-do/brownfields/how-to-redevelop-brownfields/> or the full document.

*We'll never know
the worth of
water 'till the well
goes dry.*

*--18th century
Scottish proverb*



As the Summer Heats Up with Higher Temperatures so do our Water Bills!

According to the NYSDEC, more than 15 billion gallons of water are withdrawn each day from NY State's lakes, rivers, streams, estuaries and groundwater. Water is a vital natural resource and must be placed at high importance during the summer months as temperatures rise.

The NYC DEP estimates that a leaking toilet can waste almost 250 gallons of water and cost close to \$1,000. Constantly running toilets can waste up to 6,000 gallons a year. Educating staff on the importance of water conservation and providing information and guidelines to conserve in your facilities is the first and most important step. Additionally, posting signs asking those using the facilities to report leaks of faucets or toilets right away will assist with

In addition to educating staff, maintain a good recording keeping of water bills and servicing records for equipment using water can assist with identifying high usage areas and leaks. Often facilities pay the water bill and do not keep track of water usage or notice how much money could be saved by reduction strategies. Locating all meters and equipment and maintaining accurate building figures is also important.

Most new facilities maintain s but many facilities are older have accurate historical information on the building infrastructure.



The EPA has a great resource to assist with water reduction strategies. The EPA divides water strategies. The EPA divides water users can be divided into two basic groups: system users (such as residential users, industries, and farmers) and system operators (such as municipalities, state and local governments, and privately owned suppliers). These users can choose from among many different water use efficiency practices, which fall into two categories:

1. Engineering practices: practices based on modifications in plumbing, fixtures, or water supply operating procedures
2. Behavioral practices: practices based on changing water use habits

To views these practices visit <http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/chap3.cfm>.

PlaNYC In Action- Goals for December 2013

In 2007 Mayor Bloomberg set forth a plan (PlaNYC) tp prepare for a million more NYC residence , strengthen the economy, combat climate change, and enhance quality of life. Collaboration is key is this visions and PlaNYC brings in 25 agencies toward a greener, greater NYC.

In April 2011, PlaNYC released its agenda setting goals for December 31, 2013. The Plan focuses on the physical city, and the functionality of its infrastructure in everyday living: housing, neighborhoods that need more playgrounds, aged water and power systems overdue for upgrade, congested streets and crowded subways.

Specifically, the Plan outlines goals for housing and neighborhoods, parks and public spaces, brownfields, waterways, water supply, transportation, energy, air quality, solid waste, and climate change.

As we see more extreme weather patterns, developing infrastructure to support such change is vital in future growth as it poses acute risks. The Plan addresses such risks and presents and exciting opportunity for adaptation on a rapid schedule!

To view the plan in its entirety visit:

http://nytelecom.vo.llnwd.net/o15/agencies/planyc2030/pdf/planyc_2011_planyc

PlaNYC Determined to



Go Green!

Top Sustainability Projects

Town of Babylon – Wyandanch Rising

PW Grosser has been contracted by the Town of Babylon to explore innovative uses of alternative and renewable energies and environmentally intelligent design and construction as part of development of the Wyandanch Rising Project.

One of the forward thinking ideas associated with this philosophy is the possibility of utilizing a ground source heat pump system (“geothermal system”), such as a district type heating and cooling utility. On behalf of the Town, P.W. Grosser Consulting (PWGC) along with a team of sub-consultants has conducted a feasibility study to evaluate the viability of implementing such a utility-scale geothermal system.

Three feasible options were selected, developed into conceptual site plans and subjected to a preliminary economic analysis. The three options selected were:

- 1) Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage (ATES) system to supply the entire development.
- 2) Vertical closed loop system using multiple borefields for the entire development.
- 3) Combination of ATES system to serve the retail, civic, and some residential buildings, and a down-sized vertical closed loop system to serve the bulk of the residential buildings.

Solar PV also appears to be a potential viable solution to reduce electrical energy consumptions, along with the potential for a Micro-Grid system. Both will be analyzed further.



John Rhyner, PG, LEED, AP of PWGC to Host the Geothermal Educational Forum

PWGC's Geothermal Practices Manager John Rhyner will join a host of local and national experts in presenting a full day Geothermal Educational Forum on Friday, July 22, 2011, from 8:15 to 4:30. The event will be held at MTA/New York City Transit's office at 2 Broadway, Manhattan, 20th floor, with an extraordinary view of the NY metropolitan area. The forum is being organized by the American Ground Water Trust in cooperation with the Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO) and International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA).



PWGC extends a personal invitation to all of our clients and colleagues to attend this “one-stop-shop” opportunity to get up to speed with this technology. This is the second year for the forum and for PWGC's participation. The program is geared to building owners, developers, municipal officials, architects and other professionals who design, install, inspect, approve, recommend or regulate heating & cooling systems. More information on the program and how to register are available at the link below.

http://www.agwt.org/events/2011/2011NY_GSHC_Program.pdf



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Brownfield & Revitalization

Date: July 21, 2011
Time: 12pm

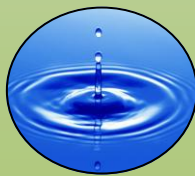
Given By:
Kris Almskog



Water Conservation

Date: September 14, 2011
Time: 12pm

Given By:
Richard Zapolski, PE



Renewable Energy

Date: October 12, 2011
Time: 12pm

Given By:
Steve Giordano, P.E., LEED AP



**Going Green
Can Be Puzzling...
Let us help you
solve it!**



Quality and Performance

Businesses are all too aware of their responsibility to protect and enhance the environment in which they work and operate. However, Directors have found that managing activities in a responsible way not only helps to reduce the negative impacts on the environment (e.g. production of waste, natural resource preservation) but also reduces production costs significantly.

That's where we come in: PWGC will work with you to integrate environmental best practice measures into key areas of the business stream and current working practices.

Applying Knowledge and Insight

We act as your advocate with partners, contractors and regulatory agencies. PWGC's experienced regulatory specialists know how to apply regulations to keep you in compliance and yet let you meet your corporate goals. The added benefit: Enhanced image with your community and regulatory agencies.

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