



March 2016

Sustainable energy eNews

Our investments are making a difference



**How will your idea change the world?
One day, one event, \$160,000**

Beat the rush and submit your application early. Only forty two days left to make a pitch for your big idea. A collaboration between Sustainable Energy Fund and WPPSEF announced the creation of Energy Sprout, a competition open to all Pennsylvania residents, businesses, and communities with the goal of developing new technology and business models that lead to improved sustainable energy solutions. All applications must be received by May 3, 2016 (4 p.m. EST).

Energy Sprout will focus on three pillars: energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. The competition will place entrants into one of two pools: business and individuals or community. The first place winner for the business/individual competition will receive a \$100,000 grant, with \$25,000 for second place. Third place will receive a \$3,000 grant. Within the community competition, the winner of the top prize will be rewarded with a \$25,000 grant, second prize will be \$5,000 and the third prize winner will receive \$3,000 in grants.

Finalists from each pool will be selected to present their innovation live at Energypath 2016 on Thursday, July 28. Energypath 2016 is the region's largest sustainable energy event attracting industry professionals, policymakers and academia throughout the region and across the United States. Energypath 2016 is being held July 25-29 at The Pennsylvania State University.



[Learn more or download the submission guidelines](#)

Project Showcase Women-In-Need Moves Into New LEED Domestic Violence Shelter

WPPSEF is delighted to have partnered with Women-In-Need (WIN) in Chambersburg, PA to help build a new 11,070 square foot shelter designed to meet LEED standards. According to the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED certified buildings save money and resources and have a positive impact on the health of occupants, while promoting renewable, clean energy. The WPPSEF grant, in the amount of \$100,000 was used to co-fund up to 50% of the acquisition and installation of four (4) ENE24 evacuated tube solar thermal panels for hot water production, a heat recovery ventilator, and a variable refrigeration volume (VRV) heating/cooling system. The new shelter is providing:

- Additional living space for women and their children
- A secured courtyard for children to play
- Provide space for job training
- Consolidate program services in one location to offer easier access for victims

"We love it! We moved in at the end of January right after the big blizzard. The snow didn't stop us from settling in with families living here and we've moved into our new offices. It was a long time coming and we are just thrilled," says Barb Channing, Executive Director, Women In Need, Inc.

Joel Morrison, Director, WPPSEF adds "West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund was proud to provide grant support to help make this important project a reality and provide a more healthy, safe and energy efficient environment for the new shelter so that WIN can expand and carry out their mission." WIN has helped to support victims of domestic and sexual violence since 1977 with their free and confidential services to over 1700 victims per year in both Franklin and Fulton Counties. [Donate to Women In Need.](#)

Who are we?

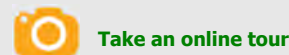
The West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that invests in the deployment of sustainable energy technologies that benefit the West Penn Power ratepayers in Pennsylvania.

~ **We are seeking a diversified portfolio of clean energy investments** ~



What do we do?

- Deployment of sustainable and clean energy technologies;
- Deployment of energy efficiency and conservation technologies; and
- Facilitating economic development, environmental betterment, and public education as they relate to sustainable energy deployment in the WPP service region.



Sponsored Events



Energypath 2016 Emerging Technology & Business Models - is the region's largest sustainable energy event attracting industry professionals, policymakers and academia throughout the region and across the United States. The goal of Energypath is to increase the knowledge of and passion for sustainable energy in the leaders of today and tomorrow.

Finalists in each category of Energy Sprout will be selected to present their innovation live at Energypath 2016 on Thursday, July 28.

July 25-29, 2016 at the Pennsylvania State University. [Learn More.](#)



Quick Links

[Energy Innovation Center](#)

[Green Building Alliance](#)

[PA Environment Digest](#)

[Pennsylvania Environmental Council](#)

[PennSEF - Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Finance Program](#)

[Keystone Home Energy Loan Program](#)



Projects Recently Completed

Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA recently completed an energy-saving LED lighting system in the college's renovated John Stewart Memorial Library and new learning commons. LED lights will comprise approximately 42 percent of the library's \$85,000 lighting system. Projections show that the combined lighting system will use 37 to 40 percent less electrical power than the previous lighting scheme. Wilson College had been awarded a \$25,000 grant from WPPSEF for the LED lighting system. [View Initial Press Release.](#)



The Republic Food Enterprise Center (RFEC), Republic, PA is finished with the construction of the Center's cool room expansion, which will utilize hybrid cooling technology. The cool room is being used for the storage and processing of vegetables at the Food Hub. The RFEC is a non-profit organization that utilizes local, agricultural products and supports community produced products made in their community kitchen. The Republic Food Enterprise Center received a \$25,000 grant from WPPSEF to assist with the construction of the Center's cool room.



[View Initial Press Release.](#)

Gregg Township, Spring Mills, PA installed a Viessmann flat panel solar hot water system to preheat domestic water utilized by the Old Gregg School Community and Recreation Center in Spring Mills. The Old Gregg School serves the people of Penns Valley and surrounding areas by providing a safe and vibrant location for recreation, education, business and wellness opportunities while preserving the unique heritage and character of their community. Gregg Township received a \$30,000 grant from WPPSEF to offset the costs of the solar hot water system.



[View Initial Press Release.](#)

Shop Demo Depot, Mt. Pleasant, PA installed 25 new DayStar Natural Lighting Systems in its recycling location for reclaimed and recycled building materials. With a commitment to being eco-friendly by diverting useful items from a landfill, Shop Demo Depot, a social enterprise of Westmoreland Community Action, has taken its mission another step by saving electricity with the DayStar Natural Lighting Systems; a skylight that diffuses natural light for energy efficiency. Shop Demo Depot was awarded a \$23,312 grant from WPPSEF that covered the costs of the product and installation for the retail store. [View Initial Press Release.](#)



Projects About To Begin

The Alliance for Green Heat will undertake a wood stove change out assessment for WPPSEF. The assessment will propose options for programs that remove existing older stoves, and replace them with new, wood burning appliances that meet or exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2020 New Source Standards wood heater regulations. Such a program must also include a measurement and verification component that ensures existing wood stoves are removed, taken off the market, and disposed of. In addition, the project will explore the integration of a wood stove change out program into existing financing or incentive programs, as well as a residential energy efficiency program that will significantly reduce wood smoke emissions and address home comfort and air quality safety concerns. The Alliance for Green Heat received a \$15,600 grant from WPPSEF for the wood stove change out assessment.



[View Press Release.](#)

Elk County Community Recycling Center will assess the biomass system at its new Community Recycling Center. The biomass furnace in the building was used as a test furnace, and redesign is necessary to convert it to the primary heating source for the facility. The county purchased the former Advanced Recycling Equipment building in St. Marys, PA earlier this year to provide residents and businesses with a larger, more efficient location for the recycling program. The center is expected to be relocated by late spring, and upgrades to the biomass system are planned before the 2016-17 heating season. Elk County's recycling program received a \$15,000 grant from WPPSEF for this biomass system assessment.



[View Press Release.](#)

Kudos

Geisinger Medical Center earned the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for the Janet Weis Children's Hospital Solar Panel Project. As part of its commitment to a sustainable future, Geisinger installed 144 solar panels on the roof of the Janet Weis Children's Hospital to serve as an educational tool on the environmental benefits of solar energy while creating a cleaner environment. These award winners represent the best in using innovation, collaboration, and public service to improve and protect Pennsylvania's environment. WPPSEF supported this project with a \$100,000 grant to help with the purchase and installation of the 38 kW solar array and an energy monitor in the lobby of the Janet Weis Children's Hospital. [View Press Release.](#)



The Western PA School for the Deaf achieved LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for their new dormitory on their campus in Swissvale, PA. Demonstrating the School's commitment to be a responsible neighbor and regional leader, energy efficiency and conservation were a priority in the planning, design, and operation of the Residence. Western PA School for the Deaf received a \$100,000 grant from WPPSEF to assist with the construction of the School's new 30,000 square foot residence.



Events

Green Building Alliance will announce the details from the 2015 Pittsburgh 2030 District Progress Report at a special reception on Thursday, April 28th from 4-6:30 PM at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in the Allegheny Overlook. This event will showcase progress in both Downtown and Oakland towards achieving the 2030 District's aggressive energy, water, and transportation emission reduction goals. Please register by April 19th. [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 [Facebook](#) and check us out at our new [website](#). It is amazing what can happen among friends.



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