



POWERSOURCE

Customers first. Energy that lasts.

KU Sponsors University of Kentucky in Solar Decathlon Competition

With a \$250,000 sponsorship, KU is shining some light on the University of Kentucky's efforts to build a "net-zero" energy use house for the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon competition this October.

The fourth biennial "Solar Decathlon" competition includes teams from 20 universities worldwide. Each 800 square-foot or less solar-powered house, built by the students on their home campus and then transported to the National Mall in Washington D.C., must demonstrate that homes powered entirely by the sun do not have to sacrifice all the modern comforts and appealing features that people have become accustomed to in their homes.

The Decathlon gets its name from the ten specific areas of competition: architecture, engineering, market viability, lighting design, communications, comfort, appliances, hot water, energy balance and home entertainment.

"This competition joins two central facets that are extremely important to KU –

education and the environment," said Vic Staffieri, Chairman, CEO and President. "We wanted to support



Courtesy of DOE/NREL, Photo by Warren Gretz

the University of Kentucky in this very challenging and innovative competition where our state's knowledge of current energy issues can be applied on an international stage."

For more information about UK's house, visit www.uky.edu/solarhouse. For more information on Solar Decathlon 2009, visit www.solardecathlon.org.



Power On

An engineer's hobby leads to energy innovation

With our current energy challenges, you may wonder how one person can make a difference. One electrical engineer may inspire you. During a holiday trip, Annette von Jouanne was bodysurfing and had an epiphany that wave power is endless. Since that time, von Jouanne has focused her electrical engineering efforts to create a plausible ocean-based

generator. For the full story visit www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/Catching-a-Wave.html.

For detailed information about energy issues and Smart Saver tips on how to become a better energy manager, visit www.eon-us.com. Your efforts will make a difference!

Technotes

KU has partnered with Kentucky NEED (National Energy Education Development) to develop and deploy a program supporting energy education in schools throughout our service area. The program, designed for students in kindergarten through eighth grade, will consist of:

- Direct teacher training in energy education concepts;
- Technical support and follow up for trained teachers;
- Energy team training for students;
- Energy kits for hands on learning for students;
- Mini grants for school-based, student led energy management programs; and
- A comprehensive Web site of resources.

Additional information will be available in the coming months.



Fall clean-up: Keep it safe!

- When cleaning gutters, never carry your ladder upright. It's easy to lose control and hit power lines or windows.
- Look up for power lines before putting a ladder down.
- Have your fireplace inspected and flue cleaned by a qualified contractor.
- To save on heating and cooling costs, close the dampers and doors in fireplaces when not in use (unless you have a gas fireplace).
- If your furnace is more than a few years old, have it cleaned and tuned, including cleaning the blower and burners and resetting the fuel-air mixture if needed.
- Visit www.eon-us.com for Smart Saver tips on how to save up to 10 percent on your annual heating and cooling bill by finding and sealing leaks in your home.

Count your way to savings



Take a minute to look around and count the number of light bulbs in your home, and you'll likely discover you use over a dozen bulbs. If you replaced all of your incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR® qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), you could save more than \$5 in energy costs per bulb; a potential savings of almost \$65 each year! Keep in mind these additional benefits:

- CFLs generate 70% less heat and are safer to touch.
- CFLs last 10 times longer, making them ideal for hard to reach fixtures, like ceiling fans.
- The light quality has improved dramatically since they were first manufactured and have been rated as superior to incandescents. (*Popular Mechanics*, May 2007)
- The cost of CFLs has dropped significantly; bulbs can be purchased for less than \$5 each.
- CFLs can be used for all rooms, even bathrooms.
- CFLs are environmentally friendly by reducing the release of greenhouse gas emissions.

CFLs do contain a very small amount of mercury. The mercury contained in a single bulb is not likely to cause any harm; however, it is important to follow certain guidelines when cleaning up a broken bulb and disposing of the bulbs when they burn out. Visit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Web site at www.epa.gov for guidelines on dealing with broken bulbs. There are a variety of sites and organizations that will take the bulbs when you are ready to dispose of them. Check earth911.org for a location near you.

Eco-Centric

An easy way to go Green

For as little as \$5 each month, you can offset the carbon impact of your electricity usage with KU's Green Energy Program.

For each \$5 purchase of Green Energy, we ensure that 300 kilowatt hours of pure renewable energy is delivered onto the Kentucky transmission grid from new renewable energy sources, such as the Mother Ann Lee hydroelectric plant on the Kentucky River.

Just one block of Green Energy per month for a year can prevent 3.3 tons of carbon dioxide pollution; that's as much as reducing the driving time of a single car by 60% over a year.

Business customers can participate by purchasing Green Energy in blocks for as little as \$13 per month.

Go to www.eon-us.com/green to calculate the impact of Green Energy units or to enroll. Or fill out the enclosed form and mail it with your next bill payment.

The Green-e Program certifies that KU Green Energy meets the minimum environmental and consumer protection standards established by the non-profit Center for Resource Solutions. For more information on Green-e certification requirements, call 1-888-63-GREEN or log on to www.green-e.org.



Energy

To improve your bottom line, think inside the box

At KU, we're here to help your business save money and energy. When you request a Commercial Audit, we will send a trained energy-efficiency expert to your business to give you a comprehensive strategy to save energy. Our Rebate Program offers cash rebates for upgrading older equipment to new, energy-efficient models.

Put more money toward your bottom line and less toward your energy bills. Call 1-800-356-5467 or visit www.eon-us.com/ee.



Contact Information

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