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CGENEWS July 2017

Stay Green and Save Money -Stick with Aggregation



Last month the City Council unanimously approved another three years of community choice electricity aggregation with 100% renewable energy. Aggregation with renewable energy reduces our greenhouse gas emissions by more than 100,000 tons per year.

Evanston residents have by now received a mailing from the City giving details of the program and offering the option to "opt out." But please - do not opt out. CGE encourages residents to remain in the program, which simply means: do nothing and you will stay enrolled. It couldn't be easier! And not only will you save money over time, you'll also be helping to save the planet.

Be aware that there are several aggressive and predatory electricity suppliers operating in Evanston that entice customers with very low initial prices. However, these prices may double or triple after a few months. Don't sign up with anyone who calls you or knocks on your door—stick with the Evanston aggregation program!

For more information click here.

CGE's Environmental Justice Committee Joins New Task Force

CGE's Environmental Justice Committee has recently joined aldermen Braithwaite, Rue Simmons, and Revelle; City of Evanston staff; two local professors, and other citizen volunteers on a new city task force. The task force was recently created to address a **Thriving Earth** Exchange (TEX) supported project to design, fund, and implement an environmental monitoring and evaluation program focused on the Church Street Waste Transfer Station's impacts on the community. TEX, a program of the American Geophysical Union, helps scientists, community leaders and sponsors work together to solve local challenges related to natural resources, climate change and natural hazards. For more information on CGE's Environmental Justice Committee, click here. To access the City's web page on the Waste Transfer Station, click here.

CGE's Weatherization Program Successfully wraps up \$50,000 Grant

We Joined the Effort

CGE has been helping Evanston residents weatherize their homes since 2012, helping them lower their carbon emissions while increasing their comfort and saving money on Weatherization Works! their utility bills. Save Money + Save Energy = Warmer House

Citizens' Greener Evanston Contact us: Buildings@GreenerEvanston.org

from the Illinois Science and Energy Innovation Foundation and in collaboration with Elevate Energy, CGE significantly ramped up its efforts over the past year. Our outreach program, which focused on Evanston's lowincome neighborhoods, reached more than 8,100 people through 130 events

With the support of generous grant

and meetings and included 31 newsletter and media placements. Under the direction of CGE board members Leslie Shad and Jerry Herst, CGE Field Officers Robin Simmons (now Alderman Simmons) and Sara Diggs (now a CGE board member herself) worked persistently to get the message out

Although the grant program has wrapped, CGE's work to increase energy efficiency continues. Want to know how you too can save on energy utility bills? A good starting place is a **ComEd energy assessment**. You can also check out CGE's DIY ideas here. For more information, email

buildings@greenerevanston.org.

throughout the community.

EVANSTON GREEN LIVING FESTIVAL

Can You Sponsor This Year's Streets Alive and Green Living Festival?

Evanston Streets Alive featuring the **Green Living Festival** is now accepting registrations from organizations that want to be sponsors and exhibitors. The co-organizers of this annual family-friendly event are Citizens' Greener Evanston, the Evanston Environmental Association, and the city of Evanston.

To become a sponsor, click here.

• When: Sunday, September 10th, from 1pm to 5pm Where: Main Street in Evanston, between Chicago and Florence Avenues

Evanston's First LEED Home Included in 2017 GreenBuilt Home Tour



The GreenBuilt Home Tour showcases innovations in home design, materials, and operations to make them healthier and more energy efficient. The Evanston home is one of about 14 homes on this year's tour, which covers the Chicago area. The tour takes place on the weekend of July 22 and 23, GreenBuilt

2017 between 10 AM and 4PM. The cost is \$5 for two people to see one home and \$20 for two people to see as many homes as they wish, with

children admitted free. Further information can be

found at **greenbuilthometour.org**

NU Transportation Survey Results Show Commuters Pick Fastest and Cheapest Options

it is quickest (18 percent). Click here for more results.

Recently, sustainNU conducted its inaugural Transportation Survey in an effort to evaluate and reduce the university's carbon footprint. SustainNU is a University-wide program that aims to engage students, faculty, and staff in reducing—and eventually eliminating—Northwestern's contribution to climate change. It will use the survey to better understand commuting habits and encourage the use of more sustainable transportation modes. Given the size and influence of NU on the surrounding community, CGE thought it would be valuable to share some results of the survey. One of its key findings: most Northwestern students and staff choose the fastest and/or cheapest commuting options when traveling to and from the NU campus. In addition, the main reason students drive to campus (40 percent) or bike to campus (51 percent) is because it offers the quickest commuting time. Students who chiefly use public transit to commute to and from campus do so because it is the cheapest option (37 percent), out of convenience (26 percent) or because

CGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Citizens' Greener Evanston works to make Evanston a more sustainable community - environmentally, economically and socially and to address climate change by dramatically reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

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Contact us at info@greenerevanston.org

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