



Greenprint News

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We hope everyone had an excellent Earth Day and that you are all enjoying the lovely Spring weather!

Earth Day (Week?) 2008:

Earth Day events got kicked off early this year as Northfield Stapleton held an Earth Day festival on Saturday April 19th. The events featured an essay contest, speakers and free recycling of household items for those in attendance. The event was considered to be a great success as more than 3.5 tons of recyclable material was collected at the event. You can read the press release at:

<http://www.northfieldstapleton.com/go/Poolburban.cfm?MailID=820&FPURLID=2130557070>

The Earth Day festivities continued on Sunday April 20 with two major events. The Museum of Nature & Science hosted an Earth Day Fair. Greenprint Denver spent the day raising patrons' awareness about Greenprint Denver and our efforts to make Denver a more sustainable city.

The Green Apple Festival brought out 12,000 people to City Park to celebrate Earth Day, marking Denver's debut participation in this nationwide concert. The Green Apple Festival, which bills itself as America's largest Earth Day celebration, was celebrated in 8 cities this year: Denver, New York City, Washington DC, Miami, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and San Francisco. The celebration, which featured local bands and was headlined by the Neville Brothers, was a chance for local green businesses, organic and natural food vendors and nonprofits to promote sustainable options for the community. The crowd present at City Park also heard speeches from Mayor Hickenlooper and Greenprint Director Michele Weingarden touting the city's many sustainability efforts. To learn more about the Green Apple Festival please visit: http://www.greenapplemusicfestival.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogsection&id=8&Itemid=30

On Monday April 21 Ellis Elementary School received a green makeover, by Earth Day Network, as part of their GREEN Schools Campaign. Earlier this year, Ellis students identified environmental issues at their school and have been working with FrontRange Earth Force to try and address those issues. As part of the makeover, Ellis received a garden of native plants, a custom, state-of-the-art solar panel, water and air quality monitoring and guidance to address energy efficiency and waste in the cafeteria. Students then participated in an "Earth Day Fair" in the afternoon. Ellis students are now ready to educate the larger community about environmental issues and changes needed for schools to take sustainability actions.

Not to be outdone, the City and County of Denver held its annual Earth Day fair in Civic Center Park on Earth Day April 22nd. The event had a wide variety of eco-friendly businesses and agencies promoting Denver's greening activities. Nearly 700 guests visited the event to learn what is being done locally to make Denver a more sustainable environment.



Mayor Announces Take 5 Pledge and the Denver Daisy:

At an Earth Day press conference at the Denver Botanic Gardens, Mayor John Hickenlooper announced the role out of the Take 5 Pledge and the Denver Daisy. The Mayor invited Denver residents to join him in changing 5 easy habits to help make Denver greener. The Mayor said "Some of the greatest threats to our natural resources come from things we do out of habit." You can join the Mayor and take the pledge at www.greenprintdenver.org. The Mayor also unveiled the "Denver Daisy," a new drought-resistant flower created in honor of the city's 150th anniversary. Free seed packets are available to Denver residents at garden stores and Key Bank locations. To read more about the Take 5 Pledge and the Denver Daisy please visit:

http://www.denverpost.com/search/ci_9018966

Kickoff of the 8+in 10 Pilot Recycling Program:

Councilwoman Jeanne Robb, Greenprint Denver and Waste Management have teamed up to offer 8 large buildings in District 10 **free** recycling for one year. Each participating building has assigned a recycling captain, who will be tracking the waste diversion and identify the challenges to providing recycling service to large buildings. We hope this pilot will lead to greater opportunity for multi-unit buildings to recycle across Denver.

Joint Tree Planting

Greenprint Denver staff joined forces with volunteers from the DNCC, Denver Democratic National Convention Host Committee, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado and the Colorado Convention Center to plant 200 trees along Speer Boulevard and the Auraria Parkway on Wednesday April 23 as part of this year's Tree for All. Denver's tree program reached its goal of planting 10,000 trees in 7 days as part of the Mile High Million. Funding for the Speer & Auraria tree planting project came from the Colorado Convention Center and the Denver Convention and Visitors Bureau and was aided by the pro bono design work of EDAAW.

Speaker Pelosi Comes to Denver:

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) dropped by the Pepsi Center on April 7th to tout the greening efforts going on in preparation for the Democratic National Convention in August. Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper and Colorado Governor Bill Ritter spoke about the importance of being environmentally conscious to create a green legacy that will last long after the delegates have left Colorado. To read more about Speaker Pelosi's visit to Colorado, you can read the entire article at:

http://www.denverpost.com/search/ci_8839443

Denver Receives Solar City America Grant:

Denver was one of 12 cities to receive a 2008 Solar America City award from the U.S. Department of Energy. This \$450,000, two-year grant will allow Greenprint to increase solar accessibility in Denver by reducing the cost of residential installations, promoting solar technology in the commercial sector, and planning additional projects on municipal facilities.

<http://www.doe.gov/news/6099.htm>

CFL Recycling at Ace Hardware stores:

Good news for safe disposal of your compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)! The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Xcel Energy, EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc., Platte River Power Authority and Ace HARDWARE Stores in Colorado, have come up with a plan to allow citizens of Colorado to recycle their CFLs and thermostats. Residents just need to take their old bulbs and thermostats to any Ace hardware store in Colorado for safe disposal. You can read the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's press release at: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/release/2008/04212008.html>

Denver Receives Elle Magazine 2008 Green Award:

Denver was honored to receive a 2008 Green Award from Elle magazine. The award was given in honor of the city's efforts to make the 2008 Democratic National Convention, being held in Denver in August, the greenest convention in history. Read the entire article at: <http://www.elle.com/featurefullstory/13835/elles-green-awards-2008-page2.html> or in Elle's May edition out in stores now.

Congratulations!

Greenprint Denver would like to extend congratulations to three members of the Greenprint family for being recognized at the 11th Annual Wirth Chair Awards Luncheon on Tuesday April 8 honoring some of Colorado's "Pioneers of the New Energy Economy". First, we would like to extend our congratulations to former Greenprint Denver Director Beth Conover for receiving a Wirth Chair Award. Greenprint would like to congratulate Dr. Anu Ramaswami and the CU – Denver IGERT program for their work with the City and County of Denver on a greenhouse gas inventory and their assistance on the climate action plan. Congratulations also go out to Greenprint Advisory Council Member John Powers with the Alliance for a Sustainable Colorado for his award. Way to go everyone! Your leadership is greatly appreciated by the community that you serve.

-Events-

For the latest "green" events, visit: <http://www.greenprintdenver.org/news/events.php>

- Tip of the Month -

Summer's Coming: Turn up your thermostat to reduce your carbon footprint

In the April edition of Men's Health Best Life Magazine, Greenprint Denver Director Michele Weingarden talks about ways to reduce your carbon footprint. One of the easiest ways to reduce your carbon footprint is to adjust the thermostat in your home based on the time of year. "By turning it up, two degrees in warm months, and down two degrees in cold ones, you'll shrink your carbon footprint by approximately 2,000 pounds a year. (p. 26)" Other small ways that you can minimize your carbon footprint include, washing your clothes in cold water, reducing the amount of time that you let your car idle and setting the thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees. To find out more about your carbon footprint and how you can minimize it, please visit carbonfootprint.com.



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Insulate and Seal Rebates Now Available for 100 Denver Homeowners

Properly insulating and sealing a home can help reduce monthly energy bills, and make your home more comfortable. Greenprint Denver has partnered with the Colorado Energy Science Center (CESC) and the Governor's Energy Office "2008 Insulate Colorado" program to offer cash-back rebates to qualifying homeowners in the City and County of Denver that make these energy-efficient improvements to their homes.

The rebates will be issued for the installation of either attic or exterior wall insulation and basic air sealing measures, performed by an approved contractor (*do-it-yourself projects are not eligible*).

The rebate will cover 20% of the total cost of insulation and air sealing upgrades or \$300, whichever is less. Rebates will be awarded on a **first-come, first-served basis until program funding is exhausted**. This is a limited time offer, with funding for approximately 100 rebates. Rebates are not guaranteed.

How to Do I Participate?

Homeowners must be residents of the City and County of Denver and submit the following documentation to the Colorado Energy Science Center (see complete Program Guidelines below):

1. A completed *Insulate Colorado Homeowner Rebate Request Form* ([Download PDF Here](#))
2. A copy of the contractor's invoice showing total job costs and measures installed.
3. After the installation is completed, an "Insulation Card" will be provided by the installer to demonstrate to CESC/GEO that sufficient insulation was applied to the area. You will need a copy of the official "Insulation Card" demonstrating the amount of insulation added.

Rebates will be paid by the Colorado Energy Science Center to the homeowner **on a first-come, first-served basis**. For more information on the program please visit:

www.energyscience.org/

Still have Questions?

Colorado Energy Science Center
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Insulation Benefits

Energy Savings

Insulating an older home or one with inadequate insulation can reduce energy bills up to 30%. The amount of energy you save will depend on several factors including local climate; the size, shape, and construction of your house; the living habits of your family; the type and efficiency of the heating and cooling systems; and the fuel you use. Energy conserved is money saved, and the annual savings increase when utility rates go up.

Comfortable Living

Think of insulation as your home's blanket. If any area of the home is not properly insulated, air will pass through and cause comfort problems. Uninsulated walls are cold, and you'll be cold too because your body heat will be drawn out toward the cold surface. Insulation is an efficient way to reduce unwanted sound, and it is commonly used to provide a quieter interior environment. Insulation effectively reduces noise transmission through floors and through interior and exterior walls.

www.smartenergyliving.org

Insulate and Seal Program Guidelines

1. Rebates are only available to homes located within the City and County of Denver.
2. There is funding for approximately 100 rebates.
3. Insulation and air sealing upgrades must be performed on an existing residential dwelling.
4. Rebate is not available for new construction.
5. Applicants must own the residence and be the official homeowner of record.
6. Only one rebate per address.
7. Rebate is for attic or exterior wall insulation and air sealing upgrades only.
8. Insulation must be upgraded to determined minimum R-Values for the climate zone as recommended by the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).
9. The program does not require upgrading of insulation or air sealing in all areas of the home
10. Insulation and air sealing upgrades must be completed by an eligible contractor company
<http://www.colorado.gov/energy/residential/InsulateColoradoContractors.asp>
11. Do-it-Yourself insulation and air sealing upgrade projects are not eligible for the rebate
12. Eligible contractor must install insulation and air sealing measures according to the program requirements presented during the “contractor eligibility seminar.”
13. Copies of all contractor invoices and official insulation cards must be submitted with the Homeowner Rebate Request Form.
14. Failure to provide required information may result in denial of rebate.
15. Rebates are limited to 20% of the total cost of insulation and air sealing upgrades or \$300, whichever is less.
16. *Rebate is offered on a first-come, first-served basis until program funds have been depleted.*
17. CESC reserves the right to inspect the installed rebated materials and work. If such a residence does not have the qualifying material or work installed, home-owner may be required to pay-back the rebate and the contractor will be deemed ineligible to offer rebate to future customers.

This program is made possible by funding from the Governor's Energy Office and Denver Department of Environment Health, with generous technical and programmatic support from the Colorado Energy Science Center.

Home Energy Evaluation

The Colorado Energy Science Center is promoting a whole house evaluation as part of the City and County of Denver's Insulate Colorado Program.

The whole house evaluation uses diagnostic equipment such as a blower door to help evaluate the performance of a home. This comprehensive approach to home improvement provides homeowners with direct and relevant information to help make improvements to the homes energy performance, comfort, and health and safety.

For more information on the whole house evaluations please send an e-mail to kelsmore@energyscience.org and request a flyer.

www.coloradohomeperformance.org

Did You Know?

An average home uses 10,700 kWh per year, 830 therms of natural gas, generating approximately 26 tons of CO₂.

Buildings contribute over 50% of Denver's greenhouse gas emissions, with Denver's residential housing responsible for 14% alone.

Denver has a large stock of old homes. Over 84% of Denver's houses were built prior to 1980s and lack basic energy efficiency features such as attic insulation.

This program is in direct support of the Greenprint Denver Advisory Council's **Climate Action Plan** adopted by Mayor Hickenlooper in October 2007.

<http://greenprintdenver.org/about/reports.php>