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Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission Newsletter

*Serving Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne and
White Counties*

Illinois Energy Now Workshop TURN GREEN INTO GREEN ENERGY

September
2012

**ATTENTION:
Government Entities, K-12 Schools and Community Colleges**

Illinois Energy Now is an energy efficiency program administered by the State of Illinois that provides millions of dollars in rebates to public entities that make energy efficiency improvements to their electric systems.

This FREE workshop is designed to help local government officials and facility managers identify specific ways they can work to cut energy costs and access millions of dollars in funding available through DCEO's Illinois Energy Now program.

Financial incentives offered through Illinois Energy Now can cover a portion of your upgrades to electric including HVAC equipment, motors & drives, water heaters, lighting, and refrigeration equipment.



ILLINOIS ENERGY NOW PUBLIC SECTOR WORKSHOP
October 12, 2012
10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Effingham City Council Chamber • 201 East Jefferson •
Effingham, Illinois

To REGISTER for the public sector workshop just e-mail your name and contact information to iacbm@msn.com or call 217-528-5331.

Information will also be available on PROFESSIONAL AUDITS- The Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) performs free energy assessments to eligible units of local government including counties, municipalities, townships, K-12 school districts, public libraries, park districts, and water reclamation districts.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE is available from the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission to help you through the application process every step of the way. Our expert staff will be on site at the workshop to schedule appointments and provide application assistance.

www.ilenergynow.org



Important Grant Due Dates to Remember

TBA- Safe Routes to School Projects - The Illinois Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Program supports projects and programs that enable and encourage walking and bicycling to and from school. The program applies to schools Kindergarten through 8th grade.

November 19, 2012- EPA Brownfields Grants

February 2013- CDAP Public Facilities Construction- Local governments can apply for up to \$400,000 for construction of water, sewer or storm sewer projects.

March 2013– CDAP Housing Rehabilitation Grants Due-Local government can apply for up to \$400,000 to help provide safe and sanitary living conditions for low-to-moderate income residents. Grant funds are used to upgrade the existing housing stock in the community.

April 2013– CDAP Design Engineering Grants Due-Local governments can apply for up to \$100,000 for design engineering activities. Funds may be used for final design engineering plans for new or expanding water or sewer projects

June 2013- Delta Regional Authority Grants Due- White County Only-

July 1, 2013- Illinois Department of Natural Resources OSLAD Grants– Open Space Land Acquisition and Development assists local government agencies in acquiring or developing public parks or open spaces. Funding assistance up to 50% of the project costs. Grant awards up to \$750,000 for land acquisition and \$400,000 for development projects. Examples of eligible projects include: picnic and playground facilities, outdoor nature facilities, sports courts and play fields, swimming pools and beaches, campgrounds and fishing piers, winter sports facilities, park roads and paths, parking and restrooms.

Summer 2013– FEMA- Assistance to Firefighters– Grant to help fire departments obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources needed to protect the public.

Open Grant- MARS- The grants are through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to rehabilitate and retrofit properties for occupancy by persons with physical impairments. Local governments may request grant funds up to \$100,000.

Open Grant- CDAP Economic Development- Local governments can apply for up to \$750,000 in grant funds for infrastructure to assist a business in locating in an area that needs infrastructure. There is also a loan component in which businesses can apply for loan funds.

Open Grant- Economic Development Administration- grant funds available (50/50 match) that will promote comprehensive, entrepreneurial and innovation-based economic development efforts to enhance the competitiveness of regions, resulting in increased private investment and higher-skill, higher-wage jobs.

Open Grant- USDA/RD Community Facilities- Grant funds may be used to assist in the development of essential community facilities. Grant funds can be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and community and public services. This can include the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. Matching grant not to exceed \$30,000.

Open Grant- USDA/RD RBEG- Rural Business Enterprise Grant- provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses help fund business incubators, and help fund employment related adult education programs. There is no required maximum level of grant funding. However, smaller projects are given higher priority. Generally grants range \$10,000 up to \$500,000

Open Grant- FEMA/IEMA- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program- The Illinois Emergency Management Agency administers the HMGP and makes grants available to local governments as well as eligible private, non-profit organizations to implement cost-effective and long-term mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration. 75% federal grant funding. Only eligible for Counties in the NFIP with a PreDisaster Mitigation Plan.

TBA- IDOT Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program- ITEP provides funding for community based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure. Project sponsors may receive up to 80 percent reimbursement for eligible project costs.

**TBA- COPS Hiring Program
COPS Secure Our Schools
JAG (Justice Assistance Grants)**

Call or
E-mail
GWRPC
if your
commu-
nity
wishes
to apply
for these

Grant Announcements

Village of Crossville- CDAP Housing Rehabilitation- \$155,400
City of Carmi- CDAP Housing Rehabilitation- \$155,500

CDAP & EDA Grant Updates

By: David Jordan, Grant Coordinator

In 2010, **City of Olney** received a CDAP PF grant to replace storm sewers in the amount of \$294,945.

In 2010, The **City of Carmi** received \$350,000 to replace sewer treatment plant equipment. Bid opening for this project is scheduled for mid-October

Dundas West Liberty received a \$100,000 design grant in 2009. Design work on this project has been completed and is current being closed.

The **Village of Cisne** received a design grant in 2010 for infrastructure planning.

The **City of Fairfield** received an Economic Development Administration Grant in the amount of \$1.68 million to build a new water treatment plant. The project is under construction, and should be completed in late November.

The **City of Lawrenceville** received an EDA grant in the amount of \$1.776 million for improvements to the Lawrenceville Small Business Park. Construction on the project started in early June and should be completed in June of 2013.

The **City of Robinson** received a \$1.493 million grant from EDA for improvements to the Ridgway Industrial Park. Bid opening for this project was held on August 27th. Construction will begin soon.

EDA- Lawrenceville Small Business Park SPOTLIGHT



Sarah Mann, Executive Director of GWRPC and Mayor Brian Straub of Lawrenceville are pictured above with the project sign for the \$2.36 million dollar EDA project. This project consists of infrastructure development in the City of Lawrenceville's Industrial Park, which includes the construction of water distribution lines, sanitary sewer system lines, and an access road. When completed, the city will have 15 lots ready for development for either area businesses to expand or new industry to locate in Lawrenceville.



Sustainable Living Expo Returns for 2012

Good choices. *Smart Living. Help Yourself.* That's the theme of an event returning to the Dixon Springs Ag Center this fall. The 2012 Sustainable Living Expo will be held on Saturday, October 27th at the Dixon Springs Ag Center. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is offered free to the public.

Three areas – Energy, Local Foods, and Conservation will be spread across the area, offering demonstrations and informative presentations related to sustainable living. Based on the popularity of last fall's Expo, a large turnout is expected in the event's third year. **More information is available at www.SLEexpo.org, and those on Facebook are encouraged to check www.facebook.com/SLEexpo for event updates. If you can't find the answer online, call Stephanie at 618/638-6954, or send an e-mail to sbrown63@shawneelink.net.**

The Dixon Springs Agricultural Center is located on Illinois Route 145 in Pope County, four miles north of the intersection with Route 146, or 25 miles south of Harrisburg.

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GWRPC Revolving Loan Fund

The GWRPC Revolving Loan Fund can provide low interest loans up to \$100,000 to small businesses in the 7 county region. Uses of loan funds can be for real property, improvements, equipment, and working capital.

GWRPC funded projects must create or retain one permanent private

sector job for every \$7500 of RLF funds. Any business located within the seven county region is eligible with priority going to the industrial sector. You may download an application on our web-site at

<http://www.gwrpc.com/services/rlf.html>

Important Upcoming Dates

Crawford County CEDS meeting- Wednesday, October 9th- 11:30 a.m.-
Robinson City Hall

Illinois Energy Now Workshop- Friday, October 12th- 10:00-12:30 p.m.-
Effingham

Sustainable Living Expo- October 27th- Dixon Springs

GWRPC Board Meeting- Thursday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.- Albion, IL

About Our Newsletter

The Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission Newsletter is a publication of GWRPC. This newsletter covers special events and information about

GWRPC and the Illinois Counties of Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne and White. If you have any questions and/or comments about any

article in this newsletter, please contact us at:

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