

# Local Opportunities

## Recycling or Obtaining Construction Materials

- Donate or obtain viable and valuable home improvement materials at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore or Deconstruction, Inc. on Madison's East side. Contact 608.661.2810 or visit [www.restoredane.org](http://www.restoredane.org).

## Recycling (general)

- For complete information on Dane County Solid Waste, visit <http://www.countyofdane.com/pwht/recycling.aspx> or call the City of Madison Recycling Coordinator at 608.267.2626
- The website below is a complete resource listing recycling options for a variety of materials.
  - [http://www.restoredane.org/2004\\_Recycling\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.restoredane.org/2004_Recycling_Guide.pdf)

## Recycling (electronics)

- To recycle computers and electronics, visit <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/computerRoundup.cfm>
  - Computers and peripherals can be recycled for free or up to \$10.
  - Note that TVs can be recycled at the Waste Management e-cycling center at 2200 Fish Hatchery Rd, Madison.

## Hazardous Material Disposal

- For disposal of potentially hazardous materials call "Clean Sweep and Product Exchange" at 608.243.0368 or visit <http://www.danecountycleansweep.com/>. They are located at the Dane County Highway Garage at 2302 Fish Hatchery Rd.
  - Clean Sweep and Product Exchange is open seasonally from May – October.

## Electricity Use Reduction

- Borrowing a WattHour meter from a local library can help you assess electrical consumption of various appliances and check for phantom loads. Using a power strip to plug in multiple electrical devices allows you to test for more than one phantom load at a time and to shut off more than one appliance at a time when electrical devices are not in operation.
- Madison Lighting (608.271.6911) showcases several ENERGY STAR lighting manufacturers including American Fluorescent, Kichler, Lithonia Lighting, and

Seagull Lighting. Note that a \$15 Instant Cash-Back reward is available for purchasing ENERGY STAR qualified light fixtures.

- CFLs contain mercury, which is a known environmental hazard, but pose no danger when used and recycled properly. Visit <http://www.focusonenergy.com/cflrecycling> to search for local retailers that accept CFLs for recycling at no charge. There are now 65 stores around Dane County participating in the CFL recycling initiative.

### **Opportunities to Support Renewable Energy**

- A source for solar and wind information within the Madison city limits is MadiSUN ([www.cityofmadison.com/MadiSUN/](http://www.cityofmadison.com/MadiSUN/)). You can call or email for more information regarding this program at 243-0586 or [solar@citymadison.com](mailto:solar@citymadison.com). Free consulting and site visit to help you determine the effectiveness of a solar system is available.
- Participating in MG&E's Green Power Tomorrow program is a simple and inexpensive way to directly support renewable energy.
  - The additional cost for purchasing electricity through this program is 1 cent per kilowatt-hour, an increase of \$6.00 per month for the average MG&E residential customer using 600 kwh per month.
  - For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.mge.com/Environment/renewable/GreenEnergy.htm>

### **Water Conservation**

- Consider installing a Rain Barrel to collect rainwater for the garden.
  - Sustain Dane (a local community development organization) has developed a downspout-intertied system that simply and easily collects rainwater in a 55-gallon barrel. This homegrown initiative is receiving national acclaim for over 700 successfully distributed rain barrels in 2007. Organizers plan to install approximately 1,500 rain barrels in 2008.
  - Contact Sustain Dane at 608.819.0689 or visit their website:  
<http://rainreserve.com/>.

### **Indoor Air Quality Sampling**

- The Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory (located on Madison's East side) is able to test for asbestos, lead, and other hazardous substances.
  - Contact the WOHL at 608.446.0403 or visit <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/wohl/> for more information.

### **Energy Improvement Financing**

- Energy Finance Solutions is offering a loan program to Wisconsin homeowners. Homeowners may finance a number of energy efficiency improvements for their home.

- Residential owner-occupied single-family and duplex homes
- Unsecured loan (homeowner provides no collateral)
- Borrowers can finance \$2,500 - \$20,000
- Fixed rate loan terms available: 3,5,7,10 years
- No fees, points, or closing costs
- No prepayment penalty
- Can finance 100% of installation costs
- Quick approval process - usually 30 minutes or less
- Approved contractors only.
  - For more information, contact 800.583.5869 or visit <http://www.energyfinancesolutions.com/>.

### **For Further Action**

- Join or form an Environmental Action (EnAct) Team in your community to help reduce waste, conserve resources, protect our water quality, and make sustainable choices. Team members meet regularly in informal settings to learn from each other and work together to make changes within their daily lives. Contact 608.280.0800 or visit [www.enactwi.org](http://www.enactwi.org).
- Take the Mpower pledge and join the Madison area in reducing 100,000 tons in citywide emissions of carbon dioxide by 2011. Participants are encouraged to buy more renewable wind and solar power; increase the efficiency of current energy use; install solar systems; reduce car emissions, plant trees and conserve water. Visit <http://www.mpoweringmadison.com/> for more information.