

December and January Events:

As reported by MN CERTS and hosted by AURI, the Agriculture Utilization Research Institute

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 from 8am-3pm CT Minnesota Renewable Energy Roundtable 2024



Discover how mechanical vapor recompression, hot rock heat storage, and induction heating are turning up the heat. \$30 in person in Maple Grove or \$15 virtual. For further details and/or to register, visit: <https://events.auri.org/MNRER24>

As reported by MN CERTS and sponsored by the City of Bloomington and the Citizens Utility Board:

Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 2pm-4pm CT Light Bulb and Learn at Penn Lake Library



CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD
Empowering Minnesota Consumers

Join the City of Bloomington and CUB at Penn Lake Library, located at 8800 Penn Avenue South in Bloomington. We'll be handing out resources related to energy affordability and efficiency. Bring all of your energy related questions! Per: https://cubminnesota.org/th_event/light-bulb-learn-at-penn-lake-library/

As reported by MN CERTS and hosted by COPAL and Electrify Everything Minnesota

Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 6pm-8pm CT Mejore su hogar: Electrificación para su bienestar | Electrify Everything: Electrifying for Health

Location: COPAL Office at CAPI Building, 3702 E Lake St, Minneapolis, MN 55406



The workshop will include:

- A presentation on the highlights of home electrification: insulation and air sealing, heat pumps for heating and air conditioning, hybrid heat pump water heaters, clothes dryers, induction cooktops, and electrical service improvements.
- Activities that will allow you to ask specific questions about electrification steps and technologies.
- An overview of financial incentives, planning assistance, and preferred contractors for electrification projects

All homeowners and renters are welcome, and dinner will be provided. Electrify Everything Minnesota is managed by the Center for Energy and Environment and is supported by statewide foundation partners and the local governments of Edina, Eden Prairie, Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, and Hennepin County. For further details and to register, visit: https://secure.everyaction.com/DynC_MGgSECN7y380MR0ZQ2

As reported by MN CERTS and hosted by Fresh Energy:

Friday, December 6, 2024 from 11am-Noon CT 2025 Electric Vehicle Outlook



Join Jukka Kukkonen from Shift2Electric and Jo Olson of Fresh Energy for this free webinar which explores the latest EV models and incentives, charging updates, and more. Register now, whether you're EV shopping or a proud EV owner!

A portion of the webinar will be dedicated to audience Q&A and participants are encouraged to submit their questions when they register and in real time during the

webinar. Participants will walk away with a comprehensive reference list of EV models, their specs, and more. We hope to see you then!

To register, visit: <https://fresh-energy.org/event/2025-ev-outlook>

From the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as reported by MN CERTS:

Monday, December 9, 2024 at 2pm CT Small community planning grants for stormwater, wastewater, and community resilience



The MPCA will distribute \$500,000 in grants for climate planning projects to small communities with populations of less than 10,000 people. This funding provides an opportunity for these communities to assess vulnerabilities and begin planning for the effects of Minnesota's changing climate in three areas:

- increased resilience to stormwater and reduce localized flood risk
- improved the resilience of wastewater systems
- reduced human health effects and adapt community services, ordinances, and public spaces to the changing climate

Applications are due no later than Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, at 4pm CST.

MPCA employees cannot legally answer questions about this grant opportunity. Please submit questions about this grant to grants.pca@state.mn.us with the subject line "FY25 Small Communities Planning Grants for SWC Resilience" no later than Monday, Jan. 13, 2025, at 4 p.m. CST.

The MPCA will hold an informational meeting to answer questions about this grant opportunity. To learn more and/or apply, visit: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/grants-and-loans/small-community-planning-grants-for-stormwater-wastewater-and-community-resilience>

From the Minnesota Farmers Union via MN CERTs:

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 9am-5pm CT

Green Ammonia Summit: Decarbonization & Rural Vitality



Join private sector partners, technical experts, energy and utility companies, researchers, policymakers, and farm organizations to discuss the future of green fertilizer both in Minnesota and nationally.

In partnership with AURI, Fresh Energy and RMI, the Minnesota Farmers Union is organizing this Summit to bring together private sector partners, technical experts, energy and utility companies, researchers, policymakers, and farm organizations to discuss the future of green fertilizer both in Minnesota and nationally.

The Summit will take place in Oyate Hall at the University of Minnesota, Morris (600 E 4th St.) from 9:00am-5:00pm on December 10. An opening reception dinner will be held on Monday, December 9 at the Prime Steakhouse in Morris, MN.

For further details and to register, visit: <https://www.greenammoniasummit.org/>

From the Minnesota Commerce Department:

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 11am CT

Building our Clean Energy Future, Together



Sir Richard Branson, Chairman of Virgin Group, and RMI Managers Taylor Krause and Ian Welch-Phillips will be presenters at RMI's December webinar. The discussion, moderated by RMI Trustee Martha Brooks, will explore the importance of activating the next generation of climate leaders and how these leaders are partnering to advance clean energy solutions around the world. Register for this Zoom event at: <https://info.rmi.org/l/310101/2024-10-10/3s4m7dq>



From Rewiring America:

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 11am-Noon CT

Why Electrify – a 1 hour crash course

This course is a great opportunity to nudge folks who are new to electrification to take part in an interactive learning experience. We hope to see you, and your friends, there!

Why Electrify is a 101 course that breaks down what "electrify everything" means in plain English. In a unique and interactive online course, learn how electrification helps people save money, builds stronger communities, improves our health, and allows people to take positive, powerful steps to meet our climate goals. If you've heard about "electrify everything" but need more context, or you're curious to get started and looking for resources, join us!

The speakers include an electrician/CEO, a Harvard physician and Stacey Adams.

Register at <https://events.rewiringamerica.org/whyelectrifydecember>

From the Minnesota Department of Commerce:

**Wednesday, December 11, 2024 from 11am-Noon CT
Cold-Climate Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) System
Demonstration and Market Research – a CARD webinar**

Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) is a market-ready heat pump application that is available today that will help Minnesota meet its 2050 emission goals. VRF systems have the potential to achieve seasonal heating efficiencies above 300% but have had historic challenges operating during the coldest hours of the year. Recent advancements have addressed this issue, as units that used to be limited to operating to -5°F can now operate down to -22°F. This new technology is referred to in this report as cold-climate VRF (ccVRF). VRF systems can also be paired with supplemental heating systems to perform in cold climates.

In this webinar, Slipstream will discuss their market analysis and field demonstration of VRF systems to demonstrate the energy savings potential from this technology in the cold climate of Minnesota. Researchers quantified the ability for these systems to maintain comfort throughout the year, and developed recommendations to overcome market adoption barriers in the state.

To register, visit:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/weblink/register/r367f79bb83e530ad97fb0dbd60e408c8>

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Thursday, December 12 at 6:30pm CT
Central Minnesota Chapter Zoom Meeting:

Featured Speaker: J. Drake Hamilton of Fresh Energy

Topic: The 2024 U.N. Climate Conference – What Happened at COP29?



The 2024 U.N. Climate Conference, also known as COP, was held in Baku, Azerbaijan from November 11 through November 22. J. Drake Hamilton, who trained with Al Gore in Nashville in 2006 and shared the stage with Gore in 2019, was among participants of at least 195 nations from around the globe.

During our December chapter meeting, J. will provide an overview of what occurred in Baku, and its implications. To register for this Zoom meeting, please visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/CMC-12-12-2024>

*Shortly after registering, you will receive a confirmation email, containing the actual link (unique to you) for joining the meeting. **As always, please feel free to invite others to attend.***

About the speaker:



J. Drake Hamilton is Fresh Energy's senior director of science policy and an expert in climate and energy policy at the state and national levels.

Vision 2030: Fresh Energy's Strategic Framework charts the path to swiftly, equitably decarbonize five crucial sectors of our economy using proven strategies. Those sectors are Electricity, Buildings, Transportation, Agriculture, and Heavy Industry. We are doubling down on our role as a clean energy policy leader with a proven ability to shape and secure laws –and get the implementation details right. We believe that collaborative action must achieve a decarbonized economy that benefits all.

J. has represented Fresh Energy at eight global climate summits, including Paris, Glasgow, Dubai and now Baku.

J. earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in physical geography from Dartmouth College and the University of Minnesota, with an emphasis on climatology and water resources, and she was formerly assistant professor at The George Washington University.

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Monday, December 16, 2024 from 10am – Noon CT Participate in the 7th Meeting of the Minnesota Home Energy Rebates Advisory Group

The Minnesota Department of Commerce is hosting an Advisory Group meeting to help inform the design of Minnesota's Home Energy Rebates program. The Advisory Group meeting is a public meeting.

Audience: The Advisory Group is open to all interested parties. Ideal participants include those familiar with:

- Minnesota's existing programs serving low- and moderate-income customers.
- Minnesota's overarching state priorities.
- Challenges the state is likely to face in the implementation of these programs.

Meeting Objective: Obtain input into community-based organization (CBO) engagement and partnerships to incorporate into the State Implementation Blueprint Plans.

Tentative Agenda:

- Overview of the Education and Outreach Plan and the Community Benefits Plan.
- Introduction to the role of CBOs in the HOMES and HEAR Program.
- Discussion on engagement with CBOs.

To register for this Zoom meeting, visit:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rd-2hrDgtG9BA3iIfbh_8spRVpytIKV-A#

Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:30pm CT Central Minnesota Chapter Zoom Meeting:

Featured Speaker: Tina Clarke

Tentative Topic: Community Resilience

Watch for further details around January 10.

From Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light:

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 from 6:30pm – 7:30pm CT Community Climate Resilience Hubs – January Zoom Gathering



"Our Minnesota communities are already feeling the impacts of climate change, from widespread drought to bigger and more dangerous storms. Our neighbors are going to need support in building the relationships, infrastructure, and support to prevent and adapt to the realities of climate disruption. Minnesota's communities of faith, and community organizations are uniquely poised to meet this particular moment.

That's why MNIPL is launching the Community Climate Resilience Network. These [monthly] trainings and conversations will bring together organizations throughout the state that are interested in meeting this moment. We'll cover topics like, "What are Resilience Hubs?", building good and right relationships with your communities, and emergency preparedness with experts in the field."

To register, visit: <https://www.mnipl.org/event/ccrn-jan/>