

Fall 2024 Events:



Thursday, October 17 – Wednesday, October 23 Climate Reality Leadership Training

Train with former US Vice President Al Gore and join a community of change-makers working for just climate solutions worldwide.

The training will take place online from October 17 – 23. With only a few required live broadcasts, and several on-demand skill building sessions to choose from, it can easily fit into most schedules. Areas of focus will include REDUCING EMISSIONS and MISINFORMATION. The training is open to the public.

UPDATE: REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED. Hope to see many of you at the training!

Monday, October 21, 10:00am-4:30pm CT: Electrify Minnesota 2024



Humphrey School Conference Center

While the concept of beneficial electrification is appealing, the question remains – how do we implement? This meeting will bring together stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds to discuss next steps to meeting both challenges and opportunities provided by advancements in electric technology. Cost: \$95.00

For further details and/or to register visit:

<https://be-league.org/events/electrify-minnesota-2024/>

From the Climate Reality Project:

Monday, October 21, 7:00pm CT Climate Business October 2024 Collaboration

From Andrew Ellis of the Los Angeles chapter: Our agenda for the evening includes a warm welcome to our LEADERSHIP CORPS TRAINEES attending the Virtual Training and a presentation and discussion on Carbon Emissions Tracking and Auditing for small businesses.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4596720482?omn=86060430393>

From MN CERTS:

Wednesday, October 23, 2024, from 10am – 11am CT
Minnesota's Energy Workforce

Host: The Minnesota Energy Consortium

Molly Ingram and Katie McClelland from the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development will discuss the current and future state of Minnesota's energy workforce, with some time for questions to follow.

This meeting will be recorded and available for those who cannot attend. A link to the Zoom meeting can be found at:

<https://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/minnesotas-energy-workforce>

From MN CERTs:

Wednesday, October 23, Noon – 1pm CT



**Climate Change Opportunities:
Conservation and Efficiency in Food
and Ag Processing**

Host: Agricultural Utilization Research Institute

Water conservation is critical in agriculture as it directly affects food security and ecosystem sustainability. Agriculture accounts for the majority of global freshwater withdrawals, making it the largest user of water resources. Efficient water use ensures a thriving agricultural sector while preserving natural ecosystems. Adopting water efficiencies in agriculture is a matter of sustainability and economic resiliency for rural economies. Water conservation is equally vital in agricultural commodity processing as the sector requires substantial water inputs. Learn the most important and relevant developments and approaches in production agriculture, animal farming management, and commodity processing.

To register, for this free Zoom webinar visit:

<https://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/climate-change-opportunities-water-conservation-efficiency-food-and-ag-processing>

Found at <https://mn-ta-directory.pory.app/> :

Thursday, October 24, 1pm – 2pm CT
The EPA Thriving Communities Grantmakers Program



Learn about the new EPA Thriving Communities Grantmakers Program (TCGM) for our Midwest Region 5. Hear from Athena Gore, Program

Director of Urban Outreach with the Midwest Environmental Justice Network (MWEJN). She'll share program details, timeline, and ways you can support communities to prepare and connect to this opportunity. To register for this Zoom meeting visit:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZakfuyogTwqE9fge0tILSRFYxFD8XONrLgR#/registration>

See also:

<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-thriving-communities-grantmaking-program>

From MN CERTs:

Thursday, October 24, 8am – Saturday, October 26, 5pm
The 24th Conference on Climate Change and Small Cities



Hosted by Winona State University, 175 West Mark Street, Winona, MN

The theme for this free conference will be Climate Change and the Small City: Domestic and International Perspectives. It will be held in person in Winona, Minnesota.

The Conference welcomes various types of presentations (e.g., papers, roundtable discussions, workshops, posters, etc.) related to

the theme. Policy makers, applied professionals, academic researchers, public officials, community advocates, and students are invited to participate.

To learn more and/or register, visit:

<https://educate.winona.edu/climatechangesmallcities2024/>

From Fresh Energy:

Monday, October 28th, Noon – 1:00pm CT
Webinar: Solar at Osprey Wilds: How a nonprofit, electric co-op and solar developer teamed up.



At Fresh Energy, we love diving into clean energy stories and sharing them with Minnesotans far and wide. This October, we're highlighting the amazing work of Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center — a beacon for clean energy and sustainability near Sandstone, Minnesota. Since the early 2000s, Osprey Wilds has been modeling sustainable energy usage, and they've continued to set the pace this year with a large-scale solar installation.

This summer, Osprey Wilds, Soltek, and East Central Energy collaborated to install a 716-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system at Osprey Wilds' campus. The project, the largest of its kind for any nature center in Minnesota, is a win-win-win for all parties. It creates consistent revenue for Soltek, supplies East Central Energy with clean, affordable energy, and provides Osprey Wilds with zero-emission electricity, allowing it to achieve its goals of being carbon neutral from an electrical consumption standpoint, while also providing financial security through affordable energy for the next 30+ years.

But how did the vision for powering Osprey Wilds with solar become a reality? Register for this webinar hosted by Fresh Energy and join us on October 28 at 12 p.m. Central to hear from Osprey Wilds' Executive Director Bryan Wood, Soltek's CEO Shawn Markham, and East Central Energy's CEO Justin Jahnz about how all three parties came together around this project to help each other achieve their organizations' goals, while also helping the planet. The webinar will be moderated by Fresh Energy's Jo Olson and Isak Kvam.

To register, visit: <https://fresh-energy.org/event/webinar-solar-at-osprey-wilds>



Monday, October 28, 5:30pm – 7:30pm CT Electrify Everything: Home electrification for health, comfort, & climate

Electrify Everything Minnesota is a program that shares how to electrify your home and connect you with incentives, contractors, and resources to accomplish your home energy goals. Electrify Everything workshops provide step by step guidance so households can develop a plan to electrify their homes on a realistic timeline and take full advantage of federal, state and local financial incentives. Whether you want to improve home health and safety, lower your impact on the environment, keep upfront costs down, or have an old appliance you're planning to replace, you'll leave the workshop with a plan of action.

This workshop will include:

- Presentation on the pillars of home electrification: insulation and air sealing, heat pumps for heating and cooling, heat pump hybrid water heaters, clothes dryers, induction stoves, and electrical service upgrades
- Activities to allow you to ask questions about specific electrification steps and technologies
- Overview of financial incentives, planning assistance, and preferred contractors for electrification projects

Location: Lake Superior College, 2101 Trinity road, Duluth, MN 55811

To reserve a spot for this free event, visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/electrify-everything-home-electrification-for-health-comfort-climate-tickets-1008419609197>

CERTs and Electrify Everything MN are thrilled to be hosting this workshop in Duluth! All homeowners and renters are welcome, and light refreshments 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.

From MN CERTs:



Tuesday, October 29, 2024. 7:30am – 4pm CT: Minnesota Energy Expo

Hosted by ASHRAE. Location: Delta Hotels, 1330 Industrial Blvd NE, Mpls. Cost: \$100.

Attendees can look forward to Educational sessions, Exhibitors and sponsors, Networking, Hot breakfast and lunch.

Morning Keynote: Federal and International Energy Policy Landscape, Eric Oliver, AEE Director of Governmental Affairs

- How to Finance Commercial and Industrial Projects in MN
- Decarbonization
- Peak Shave and Time of Use Rates for Commercial and Industrial Customers, panel
- MN Energy Code Updates
- Emerging Technology - Distributor technology pitch session
- Large Data Center Loads: Discussion on Opportunities and Challenges, panel

For additional details and/or to register, visit:

<https://mnashrae.org/meetinginfo.php?id=345>

From Fresh Energy:

Friday, November 1, 2024 from 11am-Noon CT

COP29 and Fresh Energy: Discussion with J. Drake Hamilton



The 2024 U.N. Climate Conference, also known as COP, will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan from November 11 through November 22. J. Drake Hamilton, senior director, science policy at Fresh Energy, will be one of the more than 40,000 participants from around the globe to attend.

Register now for Fresh Energy's two-part COP29 webinar series with J. and get the scoop before and after she attends COP!

- **On November 1 at 11:00 a.m.**, participants will learn what J. is most looking forward to at COP29 and have a chance to ask questions.
- **On December 3 at 11:00 a.m.**, participants will join J. to debrief outcomes from COP29 and ask questions about the event after her return to the United States.

To register, visit:

<https://fresh-energy.org/event/cop29-and-fresh-energy-discussions-with-j-drake-hamilton/2024-11-01>

Note: You only need to register once for this two-part series. All registrants will be sent reminder emails before each webinar and recordings afterward.



From NREL via the Minnesota Department of Commerce:

Thursday, November 7 at 1:00 pm CT
Right-Sizing Electric Mobility

In this webinar, The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation discusses Right-Sizing e-mobility. Most travel in the U.S. takes place using vehicles that are significantly overpowered for a substantial portion of travel needs. Nearly 86 percent of trips are taken in personal vehicles designed to travel at highway

speeds, yet more than half of daily trips in the U.S. are less than 5 miles and the average occupancy of vehicle trips is 1.5 persons.

Many of these trips are too far to walk but too short to necessitate a personal vehicle. Right-sizing e-mobility means providing opportunities to safely use smaller-format, low-speed vehicle types such as: e-scooters, e-bikes, and low-speed vehicles.

To register, for this Zoom webinar visit:

https://nrel.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_l1sWobGVRb2VH0-KY7zGrA#/registration

From The Climate Reality Project

Thursday, November 7 at 6pm CT: Our Climate Moment, From Acts to Action - Clean Homes Coalition Call

Register for this Climate Reality Zoom meeting, to learn how to get involved:

<https://climateresality.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcrdeCqpzwoHNf7JzFyrDQod9gzQrPNWcOp#/registration>

Tuesday, November 12 from 6:30pm – 8pm CT



Lakes and Prairies Solar 101

Hosted by Solar United Neighbors
Location: West Central Research and Outreach Center, 46352 MN-329, Morris, MN.

Learn about solar energy and its benefits for your home, or small business. We'll take you through the technology, economics, financing and more. You'll also learn about the Solar Co-op in your area. The program is free to join, and members are not obligated to buy solar panels.

Join the co-op at <https://solarunitedneighbors.org/LakesAndPrairies>

Members will get:

- A free review of your roof to see if solar panels will work for you
- One-on-one support for all your questions about going solar
- Help with installer proposals, selection and installation expectations

This presentation from the experts at Solar United Neighbors will answer all your questions about going solar. You'll learn about the solar program, solar technology, and financial considerations for going solar.

After signing up, Solar United Neighbors may contact you by email or phone with campaign updates and other offers of engagement. You can unsubscribe at any time.

To register, visit: <https://www.mobilize.us/solarunitedneighbors/event/698389/>

From the MN Department of Commerce via MN CERTs:

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 from 11am – Noon CT
Managing EV Charging in Minnesota



Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption is growing rapidly in Minnesota, with nearly 7 percent of all light-duty vehicles purchased in 2023 being electric. As of 2023, there were approximately 50,000 light-duty EVs registered in Minnesota, representing about 1 percent of light-duty vehicles in the state. Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. (Synapse) used an in-house model called EV-REDI to develop forecasts for EV stocks and sales in Minnesota for each year through 2030. Using possible EV adoption trajectories, Synapse estimated the energy consumption and peak demand impacts associated with EV charging. Their analysis demonstrates the benefit that managed EV charging can have on mitigating adverse impacts to the distribution system.

Synapse's CARD white paper, "Charging Minnesota's Electric Vehicles-Strategies that Work for the Electric Grid and Consumers" assesses the potential energy and peak demand impacts from a possible range of EV adoption scenarios, examines how Minnesota's electric utilities are promoting greater adoption of EVs while mitigating the associated impacts on the electric system, and provides recommendations for program improvements based on industry best practices and lessons learned from other jurisdictions.

To register for this online event, visit:

<https://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/managing-ev-charging-minnesota>