

LAWRENCE ENERGY CONSERVATION FAIR 2011



On Saturday, September 10th, 2011 the City's Waste Reduction and Recycling Division hosted the **11th Annual Lawrence Energy Conservation Fair**. The Fair took place at the Community Building downtown, from 10 am to 4 pm. The goal of the Energy Fair is to help residents and businesses find sensible ways to reduce energy costs by choosing products and services that will increase the energy efficiency of homes, businesses and personal transportation.

The Energy Fair hosted forty exhibitors with professional environmental expertise: including local builders, architects, engineers, insulation contractors and home energy efficiency specialists. Businesses offering residential wind and solar energy systems were also present. A variety of alternative fueled vehicles were on display, as well as a wind turbine. Premier sponsors of the event included Black Hills Energy and Scott Temperature. Other sponsors included Billy Pilgrim LLC, Cromwell Solar, Hughes Consulting Engineering, Knology, Sunflower Horizons.com, Sunlite Science & Technology Inc., Take Charge Challenge, and Westar Energy.

Fair attendees had the opportunity to hear four presentations during the fair. Greg Beverlin, with Take Charge Challenge and Kim Gronniger with Westar Energy, spoke about how Lawrence residents can be more sustainable with their energy usage and what Lawrence will do with the grant money if we win the Take Charge Challenge against Manhattan. Russ Rudy presented on how to save money by correcting common problems that generate poor home performance. Larry Kinder with LilyPad EV spoke about plug in electric vehicles and charging stations and Tim Hess with Black Hills Energy presented about natural gas vehicles.



Larry Kinder with LilyPad EV demonstrates how to charge an electric vehicle with the help of a displayed Nissan Leaf brought by Mid America Electric Auto Association.

Concurrent with the Fair, the **Lawrence Sustainable Homes Tour** offered two separate bus tours that included six different building sites during the day. Tour guests learned from builders, engineers, installers and homeowners on site about their buildings, which included such features as photovoltaic panels, passive solar design, a wind turbine, solar hot water, radiant floor heating, ground and air source heating and cooling systems, and a wide variety of other energy efficient designs, products and appliances. The Tour sponsors were the American Solar Energy Society and the Heartland Renewable Energy Society.



One of the many sponsors of the Energy Fair, Scott Temperature, explains ways homes can be more energy efficient.



Children take part in some eco-minded craft activities and energy question wheel hosted by Take Charge Challenge and Eileen Horn, City/County Sustainability Coordinator.



Midwest Windpower displayed a residential wind turbine and extolled the benefits of wind power for the home.

Pick Up America promoted their goal of picking up litter across the US and their local event, "Midwest Litter Fest", taking place in 2 weeks.



The morning Sustainable Homes Tour had four stops, including this Tenants to Homeowners house which utilizes south light, insulation, HVAC and appliances to make for a highly efficient home.

The Sustainable Homes Tour also visited KU's Center for Design Research, a student design-build project, which is intended as an 'incubator' for energy smart innovations in products and services.

