

LAWRENCE ENERGY CONSERVATION FAIR 2012



City of Lawrence
WASTE REDUCTION
& RECYCLING

On Saturday, September 22, 2012, the City's Waste Reduction and Recycling Division hosted the **12th Annual Lawrence Energy Conservation Fair**. The Fair took place at the Holcom Park Recreation Center, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 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 thirty-four (34) exhibitors with professional environmental expertise: including local builders, architects, engineers, insulation contractors, and home energy efficiency specialists. Westar Energy's ElectroGo program presented an opportunity for the public to learn more about electric vehicles and test drive a Nissan Leaf, Chevy Volt or a Mitsubishi i-Miev. There were also children's activities including a human-power light bike, face painting, and up-cycling activities.

Fair attendees had a chance to enter a drawing to win an Energy Star refrigerator donated by Home Depot by obtaining raffle tickets from the exhibitors. The drawing was held at 3:30 p.m. during the Fair. Home Depot presented the prize voucher to the winner, Gary Jones.

Premier sponsors of the event included Black Hills Energy, Cromwell Solar, and Westar Energy. Other sponsors included Billy Pilgrim LLC, Home Depot, Hometown Lawrence (Lawrence Journal World), Hughes Consulting Engineering PA, and Zarco 66/Sandbar Subs.

Fair attendees had the opportunity to hear presentations during the fair. Katie Fankhauser with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 organized a presentation about pollution prevention techniques and safer substitutes for everyday household chemicals, and Westar Energy hosted a workshop on how to assess your home's energy efficiency and make changes that can help you use energy more wisely.



Natalya Lowther with Konza Solar explains her portable solar tracker system.

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 solar electric, solar hot water, passive solar design, reclaimed and locally harvested/processed wood, water catchment system, indoor vermicomposting system, an Energy Star rated home, and a wide variety of energy efficient designs, appliances, and products. The Tour sponsors were the American Solar Energy Society and the Heartland Renewable Energy Society.



Children take part in up-cycling craft activities and a human-powered light bike organized and staffed by Caitlin Craig and volunteers from Lawrence High School and the University of Kansas.



Representatives of JB Insulation LLC speak to fair attendees about the benefits of proper insulation for an increase in heating and cooling efficiency in homes and businesses.



Westar Energy's ElectroGo program allowed attendees an opportunity to learn more about and even test drive electric cars onsite.



The Sustainable Homes Tour included the Collier Residence which has solar domestic hot water, passive solar design, reclaimed stone and lumber, and high efficiency windows.

The Sustainable Homes Tour had 6 locations, including the Stella Residence which utilizes an 8.5 kW solar electric array installed by Cromwell Solar, double brick construction, and high efficiency windows and HVAC system.



The Energy Fair provided an excellent opportunity for residents and businesses to learn more about conservation techniques from experts in all areas of the energy field.