



HOLLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

For Immediate Release

Energy conservation mini seminars scheduled

Holland, MI, October 6, 2009 – Improving energy efficiency and being environmentally friendly are topics that will be discussed on Thursday evening, October 8th, as the Holland Board of Public Works kicks off the first of a series of “Living Smart” mini-seminars.

This free program will feature representatives from the Holland BPW and SEMCO Energy who will talk about programs and provide tips that will help area residents to live smarter.

To be held in the Hayes Auditorium of the Herrick District Library (300 S. River Avenue) the mini-seminars will be conducted over the next several months. “Making a conscious effort to apply a number of small steps can result in homeowners benefiting from energy savings,” said Bob Mihos, Holland BPW’s conservation programs manager. “It is a goal of the HBPW to reach out to our customers to help them save energy and at the same time protect our environment.”

The HBPW chose Public Power Week, Oct. 4-10th to kick off the “Living Smart” series. During the Oct. 8 session, Mihos will briefly talk about the HBPW’s Energy Smart Program, a portfolio of energy efficiency programs designed to assist residential and business electric customers in reducing their energy usage. Presently a Residential Refrigerator/Freezer Turn-in & Recycling Program is underway. In addition, a CFL giveaway program for HBPW customers will be announced in the near future. Over the next four years, a number of programs will be offered.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs use 75 percent less energy than traditional bulbs and last much longer. Yet it is estimated that less than 5% of area residents have made the change from traditional incandescent bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs). To help encourage HBPW customers to make the switch to CFLs, the HBPW will hold a door prize drawing during the mini-seminar. One Holland BPW customer will win a complete change-out of all the standard light bulbs in their home to compact fluorescent bulbs.

Future mini-seminars will cover “Light Right – All About Lighting” as well “Bright Solutions” a presentation highlighting business and residential customers who have instituted successful energy efficient applications.

The Holland Board of Public Works is a municipally owned utility, providing electricity, water filtration, wastewater treatment, and fiber optic data services to the City of Holland and the surrounding communities.

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