

Energy Efficiency Working Group Summary

Monday January 19, 2009 at 6PM at the Community Center: Karen Blackburn, Virginia Danfelt, Michael O'Phelan, George Wilkes, Buck Benson, Randy Roberts, Sue Ahrendt

Update on Energy Saving Items: The 12 ideas for 2009 have been update and confirmed. The following list will be promoted for the year:

January/February - gaskets on outlets in exterior walls
February/March - water heater blanket
March/April - power strips
April/May - pipe insulation
May/June - retractable clothes line
June/July - weather stripping
July/August -water saver showerheads
August/September - door sweeps
September/October - caulk
October/November - indoor shrink wrap
November/December - expanding foam
December/January - programmable thermostats

These items will be promoted and hopefully rebates will be offered by both the PUC and Arrowhead Electric Cooperative. We will try to tell people why they are important, how to install them, where they can find the items and who can help them with the efforts if needed.

The Energy Efficiency Website - Our mission: Energy that you don't use is the cheapest energy The website was discussed and the outline for the site will highlight the four initial ideas the working group had: Promote simple ideas, find money through grants and loans to help people accomplish these ideas and others, work with the local biggest consumers of energy and help them reduce their use and educate homeowners and builders about energy efficiency and conservation.

Karen: pull together the 4 ideas from the first notes outline

Gunflint Green Up - May 1-3 Day 1, 1-5 Fair, Day 2 Tree Planting Day 3 Ham Lake Half Marathon – The Energy Efficiency Group will have a presence at the Green Up.

RETAP – RETAP is a statewide organization of retired engineers, available for energy audits and technical assistance with energy conservation and efficiency projects. This group will be performing audits on two local businesses. Our group will work with them to set up other audits of large and public users of energy.

Next meeting of the Energy Efficiency Work Group will be February 16 2009.