



Lummi Island Event—Energy and Waste disposal and recycling

Need: Everyone needs information about climate change and what individuals/families can do to reduce energy uses

Goal/Objectives: Work with a small group of Lummi Islanders on the Energy Fair, to be held August 8, 2009; supported by and to be held at the Lummi Island Library (a branch of the Whatcom County Library System). The Fair will actually be held in a large Barn-like building that sits behind the Library. After the Fair, support the Library as a resource center for community members to get books, videos, and other information about climate change and what we can do about it. My personal objective is to distill and share with my community the most helpful information provided in the Carbon Masters program.

Methods: The Fair will provide a forum for speakers, booths, demonstrations, and handouts about recycling and waste disposal, alternative power (solar, wind), and energy savers. Confirmed participants include Carbon Master Gary Koch (solar cooker), Alex Ramel (Sustainable Connections), Carl Lundgren (Safe & Easy Recycling), Dana Brandt (Eco Tech), Emily Highleyman (PSE/Green Power), Jack Hardy (Western Solar). The program is still being developed. I have provided the Island Librarian with a list of books in hopes that we can set up a special display in the Library of books and other materials on climate change and energy uses that will be timed to coincide with the Fair. I'm working on a list of helpful websites to leave with the Librarian.

My first project was to assemble a basket of energy-saving devices to give away at the end of the Energy Fair (showerhead, retractable clothes line and clothes pins, battery charger and batteries, wind-up flashlight, CFL's in various sizes and shapes, 9 outlet surge protector, solar/battery calculator) which will be on display at the Lummi Island Farmer's market the three Saturdays prior to the Energy Fair - to generate interest in the Fair and allow people to put their names in the hat for the drawing on August 8.

My specific contribution on the day of the Fair is providing information, with specific instructions, of ways we can reduce energy uses at home and in our cars at relatively low cost.

Home: Provide information on energy conservation and cost savings regarding hot water heating and clothes drying

Provide information on energy reduction and cost-savings of CFL's (alert to proper disposal); post notice of PSE's "Rock the Bulb" program (coming to Bellingham Lowe's on Sept. 19-20 – trade-in at no charge 10 incandescent bulbs for 10 CFL's)

Provide information on measuring energy uses of home appliances and electronics with Kill-A-Watt device; provide information and suggestions on reducing “stand-by” energy uses (hope to have devices available to check out from Library)

Provide information on lowering water use: toilets, showers, washing machines, hand-washing vs. dishwasher, checking for leaks

Distribute “Greener Cleaners” recipes next to basket of cleaning products (baking soda, washing soda, borax, salt, vinegar, mineral/baby oil, liquid castile soap, and real lemons)

Support the Lummi Island Farmers’ Market; eat locally grown food; join a “meatless Monday” campaign; distribute Whatcom Food & Farm Finder 2009

Cars: Show “Idling” video from AirWatch Northwest (to be provided by Laura Curley) (important for islanders waiting in ferry lines to understand effects of idling)

Distribute pamphlets from Les Schwab about importance of checking tire pressure monthly to save gas and lower emissions

Encourage walking, car pooling, public transportation; reference to “Smart Trips” information from Bellingham

Outcomes: People attending the Fair will get information from a variety of sources about the many ways companies and individuals are addressing climate change. To encourage individual/family responsibility, my focus is to help provide information on ways people can save on their energy bills by taking simple steps, at relatively low cost, to reduce their energy uses.

Measuring Success: The first measure of success will be assessing attendance at the Energy Fair and level of enthusiasm /response to all that will be provided. Over time, we can monitor use of Library materials (books, videos, Kill-Watt); observe whether people stop idling while waiting for the ferry. Other ideas may come up at our next organizing meeting in June.

Steps to be taken: I’m not sure if this refers to “measuring success” or steps for the whole project. If the latter, see section above on Methods. If the former, I will explore with the organizing committee ways we can monitor our “success.”

Assets Needed: Paper for duplicating hand-outs; poster board to display information; sample devices (Kill-a-Watt); cleaning supplies in basket

Team Members: Judy Bush from Carbon Masters program will be working with a small group of Lummi Islanders to coordinate the Energy Fair on August 8. **Gary Koch** has already agreed to bring his solar cooking demonstration to the Fair.

Date of Expected Completion: The Energy Fair is August 8, 2009. There will be on-going involvement with the Lummi Island Library, to ensure books, videos, and other helpful materials remain available for circulation.

Judy Bush, lead