

STEAM

The monthly newsletter of the Green Lake Area Sustainability Team
Energy and Environment news from November 2012

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TOP STORIES / RECOMMENDED SITES

[It's Global Warming, Stupid.](#) Business Week.

[If Sandy doesn't destroy Obama's climate cowardice, what will?](#) The Guardian.

[What If Mike Bloomberg Is Right And A Climate Change Nightmare Is Here?](#) Forbes.

[What single change](#) stands to give Americans more free time, healthier ecosystems, and more meaningful jobs?

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[HUD Grant Addresses Unique Challenges of Rural Smart Growth.](#) A regional planning grant from HUD is helping Montana answer the question of how smart growth can apply to rural areas and small towns.

EDUCATION/ HOW TO / TRAINING

[Livability Literature Review: A Synthesis of Current Practice.](#) This new report will help local governments and their regional planning organizations, both urban and rural, better understand the resources available to create more livable communities.

[Learn How Local Governments Can Use Energy Efficiency Competitions to Reduce Energy Use, December 6.](#) Experts from EPA's ENERGY STAR program will discuss the benefits of a competition, the basic steps involved, common barriers and possible solutions, and free resources to help local governments put together their own competition.

The mission of [Understanding Science](#) is to provide a fun, accessible, and free resource that accurately communicates what science is and how it really works.

[Sustainable Community Workshop: Spark a Revolution on Your Block.](#)

[Sustainable School Workshop: Lessons for Creating Positive Solutions for a Sustainable Future.](#)

NACo and the Distributed Wind Energy Association (DWEA) recently published "County Strategies for Successfully Managing and Promoting Wind Power." For more information, please contact Cindy Wasser at cwasser@naco.org or 202.942.4274.

[Portage County Energy Team webpage.](#)

[BADGER BIONEERS](#) conference December 12th & 13th. Please check out the Sustain Dane [website](#) for the full conference schedule and to register.

BUSINESS and EMPLOYMENT

[Governors call for PTC extension.](#) Governors from states with wind farms and manufacturing plants to serve the industry called on Congressional leaders for an immediate extension of the federal production tax credit (PTC) that is set to expire at years end.

[Wisconsin Sustainable Business Council Conference.](#)

[US tariffs on Chinese Solar Panels.](#)

BUILDING

[Union South wins LEED sustainability award.](#) The Wisconsin Union announced Monday that Union South was awarded a LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for its use of sustainable energies...

[Soldiers Grove, a Wisconsin community, moved to avoid flooding.](#)

[Wisconsin school districts spend millions on energy efficiency projects.](#) Wisconsin schools are taking advantage of a three-year-old state law to catch up on maintenance and become more energy-efficient.

ENERGY

[South Africa Seeks New Bids for 3,200 Megawatts of Green Energy.](#) The government is targeting 1,470 megawatts from onshore wind projects, 400 megawatts from concentrated solar power and 1,075 megawatts from solar photovoltaic projects...

[If You Had A Microgrid, You Wouldn't Be Waiting For The Power Company.](#) Why spend billions on restringing, burying, or waterproofing power lines? True post-storm resilience lies in onsite renewable energy.

[Dream of green energy turns to vision in desert sun \[National, The \(United Arab Emirates\)\].](#) Morocco has ambitions of exporting solar power to Europe. The intensity of the sun in this part of the world has lured Hollywood filmmakers for decades...Now the region is attracting energy firms...

[Turbines wind up neighbors along Highway 12.](#)

ENVIRONMENT

[Climate change is here, even if election skipped it.](#) Climate scientists say the record warm weather of the past year, punctuated by extreme events such as superstorm Sandy in the Northeast, provides a glimpse of things to come and should push the issue higher on the list of national priorities...

Replicating Policy that Works: Payment for Environmental Services in Mexico. Mexico's story of [payment for environmental services](#) shows academic literature's potential to influence environmental issues and developing countries' need for the right tools to tackle those issues head on.

Global warming activists with 350 Madison Climate Action Team want to force change through UW divestment campaign.

We're on pace for 4°C of global warming. Here's why the World Bank is terrified.
Washington Post.

FOOD

[USDA Know Your Farmer Know Your Food](#). Learn about local food resources from USDA and beyond, and see how others are using these tools in their communities.

[Sustainable system: New UW-Eau Claire center serves local foods](#). Nearly 20 percent of the \$4.3 million Blugold Dining spends annually on food is used to purchase local food products...

Farmers are invited to attend a webinar December 18th at 6pm (Central) to learn about the legal aspects of running a CSA and gain strategies for crafting a CSA member agreement to improve customer satisfaction and retention. Please register for this webinar at www.farmcommons.org.

[Wisconsin brings farm food to schools and keeps dollars local](#). Forbes.

A nice article from UW-Madison on Chicago-based [Fresh Moves](#), an old city bus transformed into mobile market working to improve access to fresh produce for people in West and South Chicago.

HEALTH

[Stand-up desks gaining favor in the marketplace](#).

TRANSPORTATION

[Gas prices, environmental benefits renewing interest in CNG cars and trucks](#).

[Peer-to-peer car sharing](#).

*Your county
extension office*



**UW
Extension**
Cooperative Extension
Green Lake County

Jason Kauffeld

Community Development Educator

Green Lake County UW-Extension

571 County Road A

Box 3188 (Mailing Address)

Green Lake, WI 54941

Phone: 920-294-4036

Fax: 920-294-4176

Email: jason.kauffeld@ces.uwex.edu

<http://greenlake.uwex.edu>

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