



Earth Week 2010
Earth Day - Arbor Day
April 18th - 24th
The Power of Green: Fueling Jobs & Better Living
Village of Turtle Lake

Sustainable Communities & the Power of Green: Fueling Jobs and Better Living

Did you know that Barron County employers identified over 300 “green jobs” in a recent survey sponsored by UW-Extension and Barron County Economic Development? Did you know the City of River Falls recently created a local financing option to help residents install geothermal, wind, and solar at their homes?

If you are interested in finding out what communities can do to stimulate green jobs, join us for an Earth Day presentation April 22nd from 10-11am at the Turtle Lake High School Auditorium in Turtle Lake, WI. Andrew Dane, Community Development Specialist with Barron County UW-Extension, will talk about how communities around Wisconsin, the U.S., and the World are linking sustainability strategies with economic development to create a higher quality of life for their citizens while stimulating job growth. Mr. Dane is author of “Green Collar Jobs,” published in the Berkshire Encyclopedia of Sustainability. He led a Green Jobs workshop at the 2009 Midwest Renewable Energy Association Fair and recently completed a regional green-collar jobs workforce training study for the Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board.

Much has been written about how individual consumers can “go green” by being better shoppers. Likewise, Wal-Mart and other companies are rapidly positioning themselves to take advantage of the transition to sustainability. The focus of this talk will be on community policy. How can communities leverage local assets into future economic development opportunities?

Case studies will examine four categories of “green jobs” including renewable energy, energy efficiency, environmentally friendly production, and conservation and pollution mitigation. The Village of Turtle Lake is currently developing an eco-industrial park in order to utilize local energy sources and attract green industry. Join us on Earth Day to learn about and discuss what other communities are doing to create a healthier environment while generating local economic development opportunities. The Turtle Lake High School Auditorium is located at 205 Oak Street North. Visitors may park at the South Parking lot off Willow Street. This event is free and open to the public. To learn more about Earth Week in Turtle Lake visit www.turtlelakewi.com/earth_week.htm