



THE DOE RUN CO. CELEBRATES EARTH DAY WITH COST-SAVING ENERGY UPGRADES FOR SCHOOLS

Solar Panel Installations and Diesel Bus Retrofit Projects Provide Savings to Districts

ST. LOUIS – Students at Herculaneum High School (HHS) will soon be able to celebrate Earth Day every day, thanks to an innovative new curriculum that demonstrates the cost – and value – of energy. The curriculum, developed by Missouri Univer-

sity of Science & Technology, with the assistance of Microgrid Solar, will teach students how to analyze the cost benefits by measuring the impact of energy-efficient upgrades made at the school.

Complementing this effort, The Doe Run Company (Doe Run) teamed up with Microgrid in 2013 to provide solar canopies, roof-top

arrays, lighting changes, and HVAC upgrades for HHS, which are working to reduce operating costs and improve the school's energy efficiency.

"As a natural resources company, we look for ways to protect the environment we share with our communities," said Gary Hughes, general manager of Doe Run's Metals Division. "As Earth Day approaches, Doe Run is proud to celebrate these environmental investments and the value they provide."

Energy Improvements by the Numbers:

- The energy upgrades at HHS are estimated to save the school \$44,000 within the first year and more than \$2 million in its projected lifetime.
- These savings are equivalent to nearly 4 million pounds of CO2 over the equipment's lifetime of 25 years.
- Renewable energy, including solar, accounts for 9 percent of U.S. en-

BILL EMERSON VISITOR CENTER OPENING DATE AND PROGRAM DATES

Wappapello Lake – The Bill Emerson Memorial Visitor Center which is located near the Gate House, south of the dam, just off Highway T will soon be open. Hours are as follows:

- Spring - May 3 – May 18 (Sat/Sun) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Summer - May 23 – September 1 (Sun – Thurs) 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Fri/Sat) 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Fall - September 6 – October 26 (Sat/Sun) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Programs and event times scheduled for the Bill Emerson Memorial Visitor Center are as follows:

- May 17th - Kids to Parks Day (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
- May 23rd – June 2nd - The Way We Worked Exhibit (normal hours)
- June 14th - Chester and Charlie Choo Choo's Magic Show (2 p.m.)

STATE EXTENSION COUNCIL ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

ROLLA, Mo. – The University of Missouri Extension State Council elected new officers at its monthly meeting on April 11 in Rolla.

H.C. Russell, who has served as council chair for the last four years, announced earlier this year his intention to step down as chair. Russell led

ergy consumption, according to the Institute for Energy Research. Other major energy sources include coal, natural gas and nuclear energy.

• Doe Run's lead is used in lead-acid batteries, which store power generated from solar and wind energy sources and release it back to the grid. Batteries from C&D Technologies (a Doe Run customer) store energy generated from HHS' panels. "These projects provide a major cost savings to the school," added Dr. John Crabtree, principal at HHS. "The school district is thrilled that we are able to save money on energy costs and allocate those funds for educational tools for students."

In addition to understanding how renewable resources can help answer our energy needs, students are learning about how lead-acid batteries can be used to optimize solar energy and provide electricity for the school. The curriculum has been developed and trial classes will be implemented later this spring in the science department for grades 11 and 12.

"We are showing students that solar energy is the future," said Amanda Macke, science teacher at HHS. "The new energy-focused curriculum will help our students understand what energy costs, and teach them how different types of energy, such as solar, can positively reduce that cost in an environmentally friendly way."

Separately, Doe Run worked with a vendor to provide a diesel school bus retrofit project, which improved fuel efficiency and reduced emissions of air pollutants in Hillsboro, Jefferson R-7, Windsor, Dunklin, Desoto, Grandview and Festus school districts.

The solar panels program and the diesel school bus retrofit represent projects announced by Doe Run in 2010 that the company agreed to complete as part of a consent decree with the state of Missouri and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Doe Run's annual sustainability report provides more details about how the company works to protect Missouri's land, air and waterways.



Serenity Hospice Welcomes New Business Manager

By Tammy Bracken, Director of Public Relations

After "some amazing candidates and interviews, and lots of prayer", Serenity HospiceCare's Executive Director, Shelley Layton, announced they had found their new Business Manager: Julie Kruppe. Serenity's current Business Manager, Sandy Lauser, will be retiring in May after 17 years of service.

Kruppe comes to Serenity from Fidelity Residential Solutions where she had taken on several large and prominent contracts scanning over several states. She has over ten years of experience working with fiscal statements at both Fidelity and Nai Desco, as well as managing budgets in a church vestry. Kruppe attended Drury University majoring in sociology and criminology in 1999 and most recently completed her Mas-

ter's-Level Certificate in Nonprofit Organization Management from Washington University in 2011.

Having been from St. Louis, Julie and her family moved to the Parkland last year, where she quickly became involved in volunteering as a way to become part of the community. She has volunteered in her church, participated in the Open Door Program by providing warm meals to the community, volunteered for CASA, as well as donating her time to be part of a Therapeutic Horsemanship Program.

Kruppe is eager to become part of Serenity HospiceCare. "I'm so excited. This is an unbelievable opportunity, and I'm really looking forward to working for this great organization." Julie's husband, Erik, is head football coach at Farmington High School. They have two four-year-old twin boys named John and Max.

MOPERC Submits FY15 Budget for Public Comment

At its Spring Board Meeting in Jefferson City on April 22, the Missouri Propane Education and Research Council approved a preliminary spending plan for its fiscal year which begins July 1.

The Council anticipates an estimated \$960,000 in income from a four-tenths-cent (\$0.004) assessment on 240 million gallons sold during the 12-month period. Those statewide gallons are supplemented by an estimated \$285,000 in funds provided by PERC and \$1,000 in anticipated interest income. Also, the Council will use an estimated \$70,000 surplus from the current year to fund activi-

ties next year.

Programs for FY15 will include \$470,000 for residential appliance rebates, an increased marketing presence (\$171,000) and motor fuel budget (\$250,000) along with \$187,000 for Education and Training, commitments to fire training (\$10,000), Homebuilder outreach (\$15,000) and Policy Development (\$7000). Administrative costs are estimated at \$206,000.

The budget is available for review at www.MissouriPropane.com. You are invited to submit comments to MOPERC President State Ahrens at Steve@moperc.org

GET IN, GET OUT WHEN GROCERY SHOPPING

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Small changes can mean big savings at the supermarket, says a University of Missouri Extension nutrition specialist.

The average American throws away \$600 worth of food each year, said Ellen Schuster. Before you leave home, shop your own cupboards, refrigerator and freezer.

Make a menu and shopping list after checking grocery ads and coupons. Loss leaders—items sold at a loss to the store—are used to attract buyers who likely will buy other items while there. They're a great buy only if you use them, Schuster said.

Shop quickly. "Get in and get out," she said. "The more time you spend in the store, the more you are going to spend." Shoppers typically spend \$2.17 every minute they are in the store, according to the Food Marketing Institute. A grocery list helps prevent impulse buying.

Shop the store's perimeter aisles first. That's where you'll find the most nutritious foods such as produce, meat and dairy. Use shelf labels or your smartphone calculator to compare unit prices.

Often the best bargains are hiding on shelves that aren't at eye level, she said. "Look high. Look low."

Consider buying store brands. They can be 20 to 50 percent cheaper than name-brand items. Store-brand items are usually just as nutritious and tasty as name brands. But sales and coupons can often make name brands a bargain, so it's important to compare.

Other tips from Schuster: • Don't shop when you're hungry. You'll be tempted to buy more. • Check container sizes and compare unit pricing. In recent years,

manufacturers have changed container sizes on many items so you pay the same for less.

• Frozen items usually are just as nutritious as fresh items and can be cheaper. Canned items, while generally less expensive, may contain large amounts of sodium.

• Buy local when you can for the best nutrition value.

• Don't take children on your shopping trip, if possible. This helps you avoid impulse buying.

• Buy in bulk only if you are going to use the item before it goes bad. Although the unit cost may be lower, it's a good buy only if you can use the larger quantity. Staples such as flour and sugar are examples of items that may be good bulk purchases, while perishable items such as produce or dairy may not be.

• Don't buy large quantities unless you need them. If a sale is advertised as "Buy 10 for \$10," you can usually buy only one and get it for the \$1 unit price.

• There are times when you may need to buy costly convenience items such as precut fruit and vegetables. But, for the most part, convenience is costly, Schuster said. A little extra work will result in big savings and better nutritional value.

• Buy nonfood products such as cleaning supplies and personal care items from discount stores.

• Eliminate processed foods low in nutritional value. Not only are these items less filling and bad for you, they generally cost more.

MU Extension offers feature articles and other resources on food, fitness and your budget at missourifamilies.org/features/nutritionarticles/budget.htm and missourifamilies.org/toughtimes/foodfitness.htm.



Store-brand groceries often are just as tasty and nutritious as name-brand items, says MU Extension nutrition specialist Ellen Schuster. When shopping for groceries, look for bargains on top and bottom shelves. (Credit: Photo by Linda Geist)

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