

Dept of Buildings
& General
Services

BGS Energy News

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Happy New Year!

It is another new year and the state is getting ready for another Legislative Session. We are halfway through Fiscal Year 2007 and all the agencies and departments are working hard. The next State Agency Energy Plan meeting is currently being scheduled, team members will be receiving emails soon on the time and place.



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The State Shuttle:

If you are traveling to Montpelier between January 3, 2007 and May 11, 2007, there is a free shuttle called "The Capital Shuttle" available for downtown Montpelier and the National Life building. The shuttle consists of two buses called 'Loop A' and 'Loop B' and they travel in opposite directions around the same loop. The time intervals vary depending on the destination. The recommended parking is located at the bus shelter behind the Department of Employment and Training. With the increased travel congestion in the city due to the Legislative Session, this makes parking easier and legal. The shuttles are clean and always have seats available. The parking area is close to the bus shelter and the shuttles are visible from a distance so there is no need to wait in the cold. For more information, see the Green Mountain Transit Agency website for 'Capital Shuttle Loop A' and 'Capital Shuttle Loop B' routes at: www.gmtaride.org/main.php. Select the loop from the pull down in the upper right corner of the webpage and select 'Go'. Be sure to check the schedule of the route before leaving. There are some exceptions to the available days. The shuttle is not available on Mondays until April 16, 2007 and the shuttle is not available on Town Meeting Week which is from March 5, 2007 to March 9, 2007. They will also deviate from the route up to 0.10 of a mile and they will stop at the Visitor's Center to pick up and drop off BGS Fleet cars.



Did You Know?

That 45% of the total energy used by the State of Vermont is just the transportation.
— Vermont State Agency Energy Plan
for State Government



On the Web:

As you may have noticed, I have received feedback that some recipients have had difficulty opening and forwarding this newsletter. To prevent this, I have been working with our IT staff to post the BGS Energy News on the BGS website. Currently, the November/December 2006 issue is posted at the website. An email will continue to be distributed to those on the distribution list with the only difference being it will contain a link to the website instead of the file. I will try to continue the newsletters on a bi-monthly basis. The link for the future newsletters is: www.bgs.state.vt.us/facilities/engineering/pdf/bgs-energy-news.pdf. To find the link, go to www.bgs.state.vt.us and select 'Engineering and Construction' in the left column. Once in the 'Facilities Engineering and Construction' website, select 'BGS Energy News' in the right column. It is located above the 'State Agency Energy Plan' link.

BGS:

Sharon Southbound Information Center may not catch the eye of visitors the way its newer, more innovative counterpart does in the Northbound Lane but the staff at the Information Center are catching my eye by reducing greenhouse gases in their own way. Recently, I received an email from the Sharon Southbound Information Center. Here is what I received:

"In an effort to save energy resources and expenses as well, two BGS Information Center Travel Reps have been "sharing the ride" from the Central Vermont area where they live to their respective work sites each day. Louise Calderara and Mike Charron both live in the Central Vermont area and work in the Sharon Information Centers. The two work days in opposite centers, and alternate driving to work on a weekly basis. Kudos are in order for this energy saving activity."

This is just one example on how each one of us can make a difference in reducing greenhouse gases for the entire state. According to the First Biennial Report of the Climate Neutral Working Group (CNWG), the average Vermont state employee commutes approximately 33 miles round trip and the average gas mileage for personal vehicles for 2005 was 18.3 miles per gallon. If two average state employees commuted every day for a year, they would save 4 tons of carbon dioxide a year and each employee would save about \$610 in gasoline costs.

Coming Up:

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

- Native American Proverb

The State Agency Energy Plan has developed a brochure entitled "Energy Tips for Work" that will be made available to the SAEP Energy Team for distribution. For those of you that occupy a BGS building, I will be distributing them as I visit the buildings. Agency of Natural Resources will be the first tenants to participate in this BGS meeting with tenants.

The 1-1/2 Year Progress Meeting is coming up in April. Participants will be contacted with information on location and the agenda.

The Way To Go Week is coming up in May. Last year, the State of Vermont received an Honorable Mention for their participation.



For more information, contact::

Debra M. Baslow
Phone: 802-828-0377
E-mail: debra.baslow@state.vt.us

State Agency Energy Plan

www.bgs.state.vt.us/pdf/VTStateEnergyPlan.pdf