

Citizens Helps Decatur Township Schools Cut Energy Costs

Energy use is one of the biggest expense items for every school system, so conservation projects are critical to helping school officials manage their budgets. At Decatur Township Schools, the 10-year-old Physical Education Building was facing increasing energy costs due to moisture control problems that are typical in buildings that house locker rooms.

Thanks to some creative thinking by the school system's facilities personnel, and energy efficiency incentive funding from Citizens Gas, the school system solved the moisture problem while lowering its energy costs.

School facility personnel knew the best solution for solving the moisture problem was additional ventilation with outside air. Of course, this would mean additional natural gas heating costs. Greg Spencer, Supervisor of Maintenance with Decatur Township Schools, in cooperation with Perfection Services came up with the idea of installing heat recovery wheels in the building's new heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment to capture heat from air leaving



Mark Falahee, Business Development V.P./ Partner at Perfection Group; Jeff Sinclair, Industrial Sales Consultant at Citizens; Donald Stinson, Superintendent MSD of Decatur Township; and Greg Spencer, Maintenance Supervisor MSD of Decatur Township, in the energy efficient locker room at Decatur Township Schools.

the building and put it into fresh air used for ventilation. This solved the moisture problem while helping the school system hold down heating costs.

A nearly \$9,000 commercial energy efficiency incentive from the Citizens Energy Savers Program helped the school system pay for a new digital control system for the HVAC equipment, which in turn yielded additional energy savings.

"In these difficult economic times, these types of grants help us to conserve energy costs in order to direct more money to the classroom," said Susan Adams, Director of Facilities for Decatur Township Schools.

Meet Jeff Willman, Citizens' New Director of Sales



Jeff Willman was named Director of Sales for Citizens Energy Group in December 2009, and is responsible for leading Citizens Commercial and Industrial Sales Team. Jeff brings 21 years of business development and utility management experience within the natural gas, electric and thermal energy industries to his new position. Jeff's Commercial and Industrial Sales Team provides energy consulting services for all Citizens products and services including natural gas, district steam, district chilled water, energy efficiency and on-site utility management services. Jeff believes natural gas will remain the preferred fuel source for most customers in the future because it's affordable, clean, efficient and sustainable compared to other available energy options. If you have questions for Jeff or his team regarding natural gas or any other Citizens service, please call our **Business Call Center at (317) 927-4328**.

Citizens Shares the Dream at MLK and Pride Parks

Citizens Energy Group and some partnering contractors recently contributed more than \$110,000 of in-kind work and hundreds of hours of employee volunteer service to Indy Parks to renovate Martin Luther King Park's pool bathhouse on the City's Near-Northside and Pride Park Community Center on the City's Eastside.

"With Sharing the Dream, Citizens Energy Group reaffirms its commitment to helping the City of Indianapolis create a world-class parks system," said Mayor Greg Ballard. "This very generous donation of time, energy and resources by Citizens Energy Group's staff and leadership showcases the community spirit of this corporate entity and exemplifies the kind of public-private partnerships we seek to support our assets for decades to come."

Sharing the Dream 2010 marks Citizens

Energy Group's second service project with Indy Parks. Citizens Energy Group's first Sharing the Dream project in January 2009 resulted in more than \$50,000 worth of improvements to Brookside Park Family Center. Funding for the projects was provided from revenue from non-utility companies Citizens operates. Ratepayer dollars were not used.

"Through Sharing the Dream 2010, Citizens Energy Group is proud to continue our tradition of honoring Dr. King and his tremendous service to humanity by supporting the renovations at Martin Luther King Park and Pride Park," said Carey Lykins, president and CEO of Citizens Energy Group. "We are privileged to work with Indy Parks while reinforcing our commitment to neighborhood redevelopment and enhancing the quality of life in our community."



Director of Indy Parks Stuart Lowery, Citizens Energy Group President & CEO Carey Lykins, Mayor Greg Ballard, and Jan Diggins, Manager of Neighborhood Redevelopment for Citizens, celebrate the Sharing the Dream Project at the MLK Bath House.

Energy Saving Tips for Businesses

The following energy saving tips can improve your bottom line and benefit the environment.

- **Upgrade to high efficiency lighting** - replacing incandescent technologies with CFLs, HO T-8, T-5, and other application appropriate technologies can reduce lighting costs up to 75 percent.
- **Install setback thermostats and check settings on existing units** - If setback thermostats are installed, double check their settings and reset them if necessary to match seasonal operating hours and temperature requirements. You can reduce natural gas use by one percent for every one degree Fahrenheit you set back the thermostat.
- **Ensure the energy management system is working properly** - Make sure it is set correctly and operating properly. EMS's are often set incorrectly, which wastes energy and money. The savings will be substantial: you can reduce natural gas use by up to 20 percent by using an EMS correctly.
- **Install boiler system controls** - These controls, such as outdoor temperature resets, manage the boiler's operating temperature. They trim natural gas use during fall, spring and some winter warm spells. You will reduce the boiler's natural gas use by 15 to 20 percent for non-condensing boilers and up to 40 percent for condensing boilers.
- **Maintain steam systems** - a typical industrial facility can reduce steam system related natural gas use by 20 percent by (1) reducing leaks, (2) insulating piping, and (3) testing traps.
- **Utility Systems Management** - contact Citizens at 927-4328 regarding on-site utility management services for your specific business.