

save the planet. save money. get certified.



## Be "Green" this Holiday Season

Keep your heating costs low through the holidays by setting your thermostat to 68° F for heating; use timing devices to turn the system down after business hours.



Reducing your heat setting helps your business meet Petal Project energy conservation criteria #22.

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## Loras College is Petal Certified

A green ribbon cutting was held at Loras College Wednesday, December 7th to celebrate their Petal Certification. Loras College is the second business in Dubuque to be certified; Finley Hospital was the first. "With over 1 million square feet of infrastructure, Loras has maintained our commitment to sustainability by taking the many steps needed to become Petal Certified," said Jim Collins, President, Loras College.



"Petal Certification is yet another prime example of how Loras is environmentally responsive – from the incorporation of geothermal wells to sensor controls. We are grateful to ECIA for its shared mission, commitment, and support." For more information about Loras College's accomplishment visit the [Petal Project](#) website.

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## Green Building Summit

Alliant Energy has brought together a team of experts in the building industry who are knowledgeable in energy efficient construction, architecture, design, ENERGY STAR V3 and Energy Code to put together an exciting and informative Green Building Summit!

The Green Building Summit will give you an edge in the market place by providing you with key information about the changes happening in the industry. This one day seminar in January will cover the following topics:

- **What is changing with ENERGY STAR V3?** - discuss the new requirements for builders and HVAC technicians and what new building practices will be required.
- **Planning & Design** - strategies for making building decisions upfront, communication, eliminating rework and creating a better product for their customers.

- **State Energy Code** - did you know that this is a state wide requirement, as opposed to being jurisdictional like the building code? Learn what to do to meet state requirements.
- **Marketing & Selling Energy Efficiency** - tips and ideas to help customers see the benefits of investing in energy efficient construction. Plus information on utility rebates.
- **Best Practices for Energy Efficient Construction** - learn the best techniques for comfort, livability and energy efficiency. We go through key areas for construction, simultaneously adding details about how those practices can help builders meet ENERGY STAR and Energy Code requirements.

The seminar will be held in six different locations in January. The Dubuque session is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at the Grand Harbor from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information or to register visit the [Alliant Energy website](#).

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## No December Petal Connect

Thank you to those who were able to attend the November Petal Connect. We had a great turnout and Paul Schultz's presentation about resource management was extremely helpful. Do to the holidays, we will not have a Petal Connect session in December. The next session will be January 31st. Please let Kelsey McElroy ([kmcelroy@ecia.org](mailto:kmcelroy@ecia.org)) know if you are interested in hosting.

*Petal Project businesses have a wealth of knowledge when it comes to sustainability so why not share it with each other? Each month we will host a Petal Connect session for Petal participating businesses. This is your opportunity to learn from each other and use your shared knowledge to solve common challenges.*

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## Get a first look at EPA's Portfolio Manager upgrade

EPA is in the process of upgrading Portfolio Manager. The new and improved Portfolio Manager will be easier and more intuitive to use, with simpler access to basic functionality, colorful and easy-to-generate reports, and more. To give you a sneak peak at what EPA has planned, they are inviting you to an upcoming webinar.

Come to this free webinar to get a sneak peak at some of the development screen shots and to learn:

- 1) How the new Portfolio Manager will work more like TurboTax®, with easy-to-use, intuitive interfaces
- 2) What will happen to your existing data (Short answer: Nothing! All your data will be transferred during the upgrade.)
- 3) What will happen between now and our Spring, 2013, anticipated release date

### More Sessions Added

Thursday, December 15

2:00 - 3:00

[Register here](#)

Monday, December 19

Noon - 1:00

[Register here](#)

Monday, December 19

2:00 - 3:00

[Register here](#)

Tuesday, December 20

Noon - 1:00

[Register here](#)

Tuesday, December 20

2:00 - 3:00

[Register here](#)

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## Energy Efficiency Loan Fund (EELF)

The Energy Efficiency Loan Fund (EELF) is a \$200,000 revolving loan fund established through funds from the U.S. Department of Energy. Its purpose is to help finance energy improvements in buildings owned or leased by commercial businesses or non-profits located in the City of Dubuque. EELF is intended to fund innovative energy efficiency projects that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The current interest rate for EELF loans is 1%. **Special consideration will be given to Petal Project businesses in the selection process.**

To learn more about this program or to submit an application visit the [ECIA Business Growth](#) website.

[www.petal-project.com](http://www.petal-project.com)

