

Save the Planet. Save Money. Get Certified



Beyond the Office Green Your home



1. Install a clothesline in your backyard or basement, and let your clothes dry naturally.
2. Let your houseplants do the cleaning! Some houseplants--such as Boston ferns, English ivy, rubber plants, and peace lilies--can help clean your indoor air by absorbing toxic chemicals.
3. Get your hands dirty and plant a vegetable garden. It takes some work and patience now, but when you are eating your home grown tomatoes grown this summer, it will all be

Petal Project Quarterly Meeting

Save the Date: May 9, 2014 is the quarterly meeting for Petal Project businesses. The meeting will be held at Platinum Supplemental Insurance; 137 Main St., #400 (fifth floor) Lunch will be served at 12:30pm. Sarah Weber will be presenting on green cleaning products.

Start with Energy Star

The average household spends more than \$2,200 a year on energy bills, with nearly half of this going to heating and cooling costs. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can help you make smart decisions about your home's heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system that can help save on energy costs, improve your overall comfort at home and help fight global warming.

"Did you know the energy used in the average home is responsible for twice as many greenhouse-gas emissions as the average car?"

worth it!

4. April 22nd is earth day, plant a tree, walk or ride a bike to work, plant using species that are native to Iowa.



April Events

April 2nd, 6:15-7:30pm Understanding Food Labels.

Any questions about what's in your food?

Location: Schmid Innovation Center- Gallery C
900 Jackson St.
Dubuque, IA
Call 563.583.6496 to register.

April 2nd, 6:30-8pm Green Drinks

A Monthly Social event designed for anyone interested in sustainability and green issues.

Location: Catfish Charlie's
1630 E. 16th St.
Dubuque, IA

When power plants burn fossil fuels to make electricity, they release greenhouse gases. By using less energy at home, you help reduce the emissions that contribute to global warming.

ENERGY STAR is the government-backed program that helps us all save money and protect our environment with energy-efficient products and practices. Whether you are looking for recommendations about energy-efficient equipment, getting a quality installation, HVAC maintenance, or ways to make your heating and cooling system operate more efficiently; EPA's ENERGY STAR program can help.

Central Air Conditioners

-Most residential central air conditioner are called “split-systems” because they have an outdoor component with a condenser and compressor and an indoor component with an evaporator coil. It's very important to replace both of these units at the same time. Installing a new outdoor unit without replacing the indoor unit is likely to result in low efficiency, and may lead to premature failure of the system.

-ENERGY STAR qualified central air conditioners have higher SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) and EER (Energy Efficiency Ratio) ratings than today's standard models. SEER is the most commonly used measurement of efficiency for air conditioners. It measures how efficiently a cooling system will operate over an entire season.

April 5th 2:00pm-4pm

Earth Jam

The Earth Jam event will begin with kids activities followed by a concert at 3pm.

Location: Swiss Valley Nature Center

April 11th 7:30pm

Woodcock watch

We will hike into Whitewater looking and listening for the migratory bird known as the Timberdoodle or American Woodcock.

Location: Whitewater Canyon

April 17th, 5:30-7pm

Learn to prepare and cook cuisine from different cultures.

Location: 1157 Central Ave
Dubuque, IA

More info: 563.582.3681

EER measures how efficiently a cooling system will operate when the outdoor temperature is at a specific level (95 degrees). The central air conditioner also needs a blower motor—which is usually part of the furnace—to blow the cool air through the duct system.

The only way to ensure that your new air conditioner performs at its rated efficiency, is to replace your heating system at the same time. It's especially recommended if your furnace is over 15 years old. If you purchase a new energy-efficient air conditioner but connect it to an older furnace and blower motor, your system will not perform to its rated efficiency.

Helpful Jule Information

The Jule Transit implemented an improved route system on January 6, 2014. At the spine of the new system, is an addition of Non-Stop Express service



between downtown and the west side of Dubuque. This route combines with a new route concept to create efficiencies that enable a variety of improvements including:

- Reduced travel times
- Maximum trip length of approximately 50 minutes
- 5 minute trip time from JFK Circle to 6th & Iowa
- Reduced wait times at transfers
- Maximum wait time at transfers of 15 minutes
- Non-stop service between downtown and west-end every 30 minutes
- Service from downtown to west-end and DICW until 6:15pm

- More commuters will be able to utilize transit to return home from work
- New (hourly) service to Terrace Heights, Freemont/Wartburg, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Rockdale Rd, YM/YWCA
- 30 minute service from 22-32nd & Jackson, MA West, Asbury Plaza, Walmart and DICW

For more information, visit our website at www.juletransit.org or contact The Jule at 563.589.4196

Adjustment to Janitorial Paper Requirement

After meeting with vendors and conducting extensive internal research, the Petal Project team has decided to slightly modify the janitorial paper requirement for the program. The new requirement is listed below. The program now allows the use of all Ecologo and Green-Seal certified products. We feel this change will simplify the certification process for Petal businesses, and appreciate that the third party certifications evaluate the entire life cycle of the product. Any products that previously qualified for the program still do. This change just adds the Ecologo and Green Seal options. Please let Holly Kueter know if you have any concerns with this change.

New: Purchase janitorial paper products (toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels) that are certified Ecologo, Green Seal, or contain a minimum of 50% post-consumer recycled content. Documentation from your vendor will be required.

Old: Purchase janitorial paper products (toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels) that contain a minimum of 50% post-consumer recycled content. Documentation from your vendor will be required.

Thank You To Our Sponsors

A sincere "thank you" to Sustainable Dubuque, Dubuque Bank & Trust, and EIMCO for your generous support. Membership dues cover only a small portion of the operating expenses for the Petal Project. We rely on sponsorship and grants for the remaining financial support.

Silver



Bronze



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