Colleen --

I hope your October has gotten off to a great start! Perhaps, like me, you are appreciating some snow this morning or planning a few last fall activities before winter hits us full swing. Below you will find our October Energy Education newsletter. Feel free to share or forward to a friend, and email me if you have questions or comments.

Energy Literacy for Continuing Education Credit

On October 7th and 8th, thirteen teachers in the Fairbanks area participated in a training called Energy Literacy and Application in K-12 Classrooms. This was the first of its kind from REAP that was offered through UAA so that teachers can count this 1 credit course towards continuing education credits. The teachers learned about energy literacy, challenges in energy facing Alaskans, and Alaska-specific curriculum that can be used in K-12 classrooms. This class is offered free of charge to any teacher in the school district. Participants only have to pay the course fee from UAA to earn the credit (currently $75 and no course materials fee). If you are a continuing education or curriculum director for your school district, contact me to schedule a class in your area! A participant from the Fairbanks training said this in their review: “This class helped me understand energy better (an area that I was nervous about before) and gave me great activities to use in the classroom!”

Pictured above: Fairbanks teachers received a tour of Alaska Center for Energy and Power at the start of the class. Photo by Michelle Daml.
Energy Awareness Month in Classrooms!

This month the US Department of Energy kicked off a new “Energy Talks” series, which introduces students to clean energy technologies. Students in Virginia listened to lectures on everything from fuel cell technologies to building efficiency to future careers in STEM and had the opportunity to get hands-on with some of these clean technologies. Learn more here.

Did you do any activities in your class? You can send me your pictures and description to be shared in the next newsletter! Energy Awareness month still has more than a week left – you can get inspiration for ideas for your classroom from National Energy Education Development Project.

November Webinar — Nov 2nd

The monthly webinar about Energy Literacy and AK EnergySmart curriculum will be on November 2nd. Discussing lessons for grades 6-12 will take place from 3:30 to 4:00 and lessons for grades K-5 will be from 4:15 to 4:45. Email me if you want to join and learn more about these Alaska-specific, standards based lessons or how to get training in your district!

Renewable Energy Classes in Mat-Su

There are two classes on renewable energy at the UAA Mat-Su campus that start in November. Mark Masteller teaches Basics of Ground-Source Heat Pump Systems and Intro to Solar Hot Water Systems once a week in the evenings through November. See the fler below for more information or click here for complete class descriptions.
Trivia

Q: What time of year can the greatest amount of solar energy be harvested in Alaska?

A: March to May

The peak time for solar energy in Alaska is in the spring when the panels receive direct sunlight in addition to snow-reflected light. Solar is growing in Alaska: There was an increase of 49% of installed solar from 2014 to 2015.


Happy Friday,

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