

Green



Seattle City Light
Green Power

SUMMER
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A NEWSLETTER FROM *Seattle City Light's* GREEN POWER PROGRAM

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Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center is now open.

Let's run the meter backward!

Why would an electric utility show off an electric meter running backward? Would it mean that the meter is broken?

Actually, it means that the electricity is coming from somewhere other than the power grid. In this case, solar energy is being generated by an installation at the new Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center.

It opened on May 31, a bright sunny

day and the perfect opportunity to see solar power in action.

The solar project is funded by the Seattle Green Power program. Sunlight is harvested by photovoltaic arrays mounted on three thirty-foot high, recycled utility poles and on an existing building's roof.

When there is more than enough sunlight to power the entire building, no electricity is drawn from Seattle City Light's power supply and the utility meter runs backward. Quite a sight when you've never seen it before.

The Environmental Learning Center will have the highest sustainability



Program manager Jack Brautigam takes solar meter readings.



Arrays on roof and utility poles harvest solar energy.

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Green among furry things at zoo

Woodland Park Zoo's "Family Farm" is no longer just a place for kids to pet goats, sheep and miniature horses. The zoo now teaches families about the wonders of solar energy, through a new solar electric project.

Contributions to Seattle Green Power helped City Light

"Using solar power shows the public we're walking the talk."

fund a 1.2 kilowatt (kW) solar system atop the Family Farm's Discovery Barn. The barn houses a play center for children and an interactive video kiosk. The system began cranking out power July 10.

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Solar power shines at the zoo

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“Conservation and sustainability are the main focus of the Family Farm,” says Frank Hein, the zoo’s Education Technology Manager. “Using solar power shows the public we’re walking the talk.”

The exhibit also touts natural gardening, using composting and worms instead of chemicals to promote a healthy environ-

ment. The flooring in the Discovery Barn is made from recycled tires. The zoo plans to produce a video showing how solar power works and why it leads to a cleaner, healthier environment.

For more information about the project or the Woodland Park Zoo, call (206) 684-4800 or check out www.zoo.org.



Visitors at Woodland Park Zoo’s Family Farm learn about solar power while they visit the animals.

Center combines new and old ideas

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rating of any City-constructed facility in Seattle. Built to receive a Gold Certification rating from the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, it is an innovative place to learn about sustainable design.

Mayor Greg Nickels and City Light Interim Superintendent Jim Ritch were on hand to flip the switch starting up the green power installation. The electricity flows into an inverter, which transforms the direct current (DC) into the standard alternating current (AC) to power the Environmental Learning Center.

The Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center is a model of green living in action. The building replaces an outdated building and contains a library, resource center, wet lab, storage and classrooms to accommodate 60 school children or 40 adults.

Other innovations at the Environmental Learning Center are:

- A radiant heating system warms people in the space, instead of just heating the air.
- Daylighting and natural ventilation makes the maximum use of natural lighting and breezes.
- Salmon friendly landscaping uses native plants and surfaces to allow water to percolate through the earth before going into Piper’s Creek.



An old-fashioned cistern collects water for salmon-friendly landscape.

- A rain water cistern system and rainbarrels collect stormwater runoff from the roof, and it is used to irrigate the salmon-friendly landscape.



Kinko's proved it is working to protect the environment when it enrolled its 29 Puget Sound-area stores in local utilities' green power programs. Ten Kinko's locations in Seattle City Light's service territory are now enrolled in the **Seattle Green Power** program.

Throughout Washington state, Kinko's purchases renewable power at 35 branches in 20 communities. Besides the Puget Sound area, these include Pullman, Spokane, Tacoma and Vancouver.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:



Kinko's buys green power in 13 states across the nation.

The company takes advantage of other environmental initiatives including reducing energy use, offering recycled and alternative fiber papers, and mini-

mizing and recycling wastes.

"Through programs like these, Kinko's will be able to achieve lasting benefits for the local community and the planet as a whole," stated Heather Clark, operations director for Kinko's.

Thanks for taking the challenge!

Seattle City Light teamed up with The Chinook Book, Seattle Public Utilities and Stonyfield Farm for Seattle's first Earth Day Challenge. Volunteers at Earth Day Challenge stations urged Seattleites to "take the challenge" on the spot.



The four-part challenge asks residents to make simple, yet achievable lifestyle changes to help the environment and reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions.

Hundreds of residents participated. They could sign-up for Seattle Green Power, take home a water conservation kit, agree to eat an organic food item once a day, or volunteer for an upcoming watershed restoration project in their area. The challenge was held at these locations:

- PCC stores
- Whole Foods
- Shoreline Central Market
- Uptown Espresso, Queen Anne & West Seattle
- Discovery Park

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION CLIMBS HIGH

THANK YOU AND WELCOME!

Last year's start of the Seattle Green Power program was a phenomenal success. Contributions for the first 18 months of the program total more than \$238,000. All funds are used solely to support the development of new, local renewable resources. And through June 2003, another 440 customers have added their support for new sources of renewable power by joining Seattle City Light's Green Power Program. Currently 3,900 customers participate, including 45 businesses.



Sustainability: To use natural resources efficiently, prevent pollution and improve the environment.



NEW SOLAR PROJECTS COMPLETE

Since May 2003, two new solar electric, also called photovoltaic or "PV" projects, were installed, one at Carkeek Park and one at the Woodland Park Zoo. Four more solar projects are planned for later this year. The chart on the right is a summary

of completed Seattle Green Power PV projects.

The Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center and Woodland Park Zoo Discovery Village (see front page stories) include solar information as part of staffed public education programs.

Name	Address	Location	Capacity (kW)
Greenwood School	144 NW 80th St	Building Roof	1.1
Pathfinder School	5012 SW Genesee St	Building Roof-Wall Overhang	1.7
Orca School	3528 S Ferdinand St	Garden Center - Poles	1.1
Carkeek Park	950 NW Carkeek Park Rd	Environmental Learning Center - Roof and Poles	3.6
Woodland Park Zoo	601 N 59th St	Discovery Village Barn - Roof	1.2
Bradner Gardens Park	1730 Bradner Pl. S	Community Building - Roof	5.2



For more information, please call our customer service center at 206-684-3000. Or sign up online by visiting our Web site at www.seattle.gov/light/green/greenpower/



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