



NEWS RELEASE

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ECD, NATIONAL ENERGY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ANNOUNCE ENERGY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

Statewide Seminars Help Schools and School Systems Ease the Grip of High Energy Costs

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development announced today it will partner with the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project to host the Tennessee Energy Management Workshop for Schools to help K-12 schools lessen the impact of energy costs on school budgets. The free, one-day workshops will help school administrators, managers and school districts develop multi-disciplinary energy management plans to provide real solutions and savings on energy expenses.

“Budgets are tight in school systems across Tennessee and every dollar saved in energy costs is a dollar that can be spent on educating young people,” said ECD Commissioner Matt Kisber. “I’m encouraging schools and school districts to take advantage of this opportunity to learn best practices for managing energy expenses and ways to incorporate the importance of energy conservation into their culture and curricula.”

Attendees will learn a step-by-step systems approach for creating both district- and school-level energy management programs; gain a better understanding of resources available from ECD and the Tennessee Energy Efficient Schools Initiative for improving energy efficiency and conservation in school buildings; and provide tools, curriculum and hands-on classroom kits to help schools and school districts meet their specific energy goals. Teachers attending the workshop will also learn about other professional development opportunities provided by ECD’s Energy Policy Office.

Workshop dates, locations and links to online registration are as follows:

November 12 – Knoxville – www.regonline.com/needknoxville

November 29 – Memphis – www.regonline.com/needmemphis

December 1 - Murfreesboro – www.regonline.com/needmurfreesboro

Registration online should be completed at least eight days before each workshop.

A school or school district is encouraged to send representatives from each of the following areas: administration/finance, curriculum, facilities/operations and teaching faculty. Attendees can choose from two tracks: energy management or energy education.

Sessions will be taught by professionals in the energy field, including technical and educational specialists. Guest speakers will include representatives from Tennessee school districts that have successfully implemented the best practices presented in the workshops.

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Attendees will be provided with breakfast, lunch and all relevant materials. The workshops are free of charge, but registration is required and space is limited to 50 attendees per session. For more information, call Wendi Moss at 1-800-875-5029.

ECD's Energy Policy Office offers a broad range of energy efficiency programs to businesses and industry, state and local governments, schools and residential customers through grants from the United States Department of Energy. All programs focus on energy efficiency measures and promote energy cost and dollar savings. These technical and financial assistance programs and services have helped implement projects that reduce energy bills, improve facilities and increase productivity.

About the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development's mission is to create higher skilled, better paying jobs for all Tennesseans. The department seeks to attract new corporate investment in Tennessee and works with Tennessee companies to facilitate expansion and economic growth. To find out more, go to www.tn.gov/ecd or www.investtennessee.org.

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