

HVCCN Knowledge Exchange

Noteworthy Climate Change efforts in the Hudson Valley

1. **EPA Environmental Justice Project** – 4 communities (Peekskill, Beacon, Poughkeepsie, Kingston) working to prevent a ‘mini-Katrina’ in HV. Communities are working on both adaptation/mitigation ideas to present to other EJ communities. Implementation will require separate funding. *Manna Jo Greene (mannajo@clearwater.org)*
2. **Film Viewing: Carbon Nation**—The Ops committee at Kingston Library is purchasing the film, Carbon Nation, to show in Kingston and share via interlibrary loan.
3. **Film Viewing: Gasland**—The Croton Watershed Clean Water Coalition received a grant for an education project to reach out and inform interested parties and local governments about the environmental consequences associated with hydrofracking. They are making Gasland available for private screenings. People can sign up for a viewing kit, complete with the DVD and suggested questions for discussion, and a return envelope to mail back the materials back. It’s their version of ‘netflix’. Read the article below to see viewing times and ticket information: <http://northernwestchester.lohudblogs.com/2010/09/29/gasland-brought-to-you-by-the-croton-watershed-clean-water-coalition/>
4. **Energy Credits for Sale**—Town of Greenburgh was recently approved to sell solar renewable energy credits. They also received a grant for LED street lighting and recently launched www.renewgreenburgh.org. The website is a good resource for links to Con Edison and other programs. *Allegra Dengler (allegrad@aol.com)*
5. **New Technology to Reduce Carbon** –Biochar’s potential to sequester carbon in the soil to enrich the soil. Look at the following sites to get a better understanding of how Biochar works: http://www.rainbowsendbiochar.com/Page_2.html; <http://carbon-based-ghg.blogspot.com/2011/01/is-biochar-part-of-climate-change.html>
6. **PACE program for Dutchess**—Independent Dutchess Energy Alliance (IDEA) is carrying a petition about why Dutchess should have a PACE program <http://www.petitiononline.com/pacehere>. Free energy audits are available to people and they would like to mobilize folks for an Energize Dutchess event. *Joel Tyner (joeltyner@earthlink.net)*

7. **Feb 14, Albany** – event to stop budget cuts in Albany; <http://abetterchoiceforny.org/>. *Joel Tyner (joeltyner@earthlink.net)*

8. **Geothermal Technology**—refrigerator technology a decentralized and localized technology that does have implementation barriers, but needs to be explored. *Judith Karpova (dahlia@wildblue.net)*

9. **Benefits of Mulching**— Irvington reaching out to landscape and property owners with a program about mulching and composting options (mulch in place). To learn more, www.irvingtonny.gov/green or contact Irvington Green Policy Task Force at green@irvingtonny.gov. *MJ Wilson (mjw@bcinfotech) and Nicola Coddington (nscod@earthlink.net)*

10. **Sustainable Building Course**— SUNY Ulster Sustainable Building Advisor, 9 month (100 hrs.) course. *Cliff Cooper (ccooper@2d.com)*

11. **Minisceongo Trail project**—North Rockland Central Schools completed a ½ mile. Goal: connect communities in the town of Haverstraw with a walking trail.

12. **Solar Town of Esopus** —110 Kilowatts of PV installed at the Town Hall and Town Library- both buildings feature ground-exchange heating and cooling; therefore, HVAC operation is both free of on-site fossil fuel use and largely free of contributing to GHG emissions from grid electricity generation. Read the article for more details:
<http://www.dailyfreeman.com/articles/2010/02/22/news/doc4b81f9852adc1699885037.txt>

13. **Esopus Bicentennial** —History, health (hiking and kayaking are zero emission youth activities), awareness of Parks and recreation, historical sites and figures.

14. **Earth Imprecations**— poetry of Climate Change. *Marcia Slatkin (mslatkin@juno.com)*

15. **Ulster County Energy Incentives**—New website for energy incentives and projects in Ulster County: www.sustainableulster.org.