

Glen Ellyn Cool Cities Coalition

2010 Annual Report

January 31, 2011

Highlights of 2010

Solar energy – We explored solar schools grants with District 89.

Library lectures – We helped promote a Glen Ellyn Public Library lecture by John Huston, Glen Ellyn’s own Polar explorer. The audience gasped when seeing John’s graphic of how arctic ice is melting.



We also helped organize an Earth Day lecture event for GEPL featuring local environmental groups presenting "green" activities they have undertaken, plus sharing ideas for making Glen Ellyn a more beautiful and green community. Groups included the Sierra Club, Cool Cities, First Presbyterian Church "Earthlings," the Great Western Trail, and the Glenbard West Eco Club.

Panel for the Planet – We participated in the "Panel for the Planet" seminar as part of 350.org's "10-10-10" events around the world. Held in Lombard, the panel discussion included presenters from the Sierra Club, the Great Western Trail, a solar energy installer, and a keynote lecture by Fred Van Dyke of Wheaton College.



Lighting – A joint meeting with Citizens for Glen Ellyn Preservation was well attended, and featured a presentation by the Illinois Coalition for Responsible Outdoor Lighting (ICROL) about how to minimize the impacts of wasteful and unpleasant lighting. Debra Lazar of ICROL focused on energy efficiency through better lighting design that also leads to better safety, aesthetics and darker skies.



Energy Star – The Village prepared “energy profiles” for its facilities using Energy Star’s Profile Manager that is promoted by the U.S EPA. One building is a candidate for an Energy Star designation.

Center for Neighborhood Technology –The CNT recently released “Energy Profiles” for smaller communities in Chicagoland, including Glen Ellyn. We now know for example, that the average home in Glen Ellyn used just under 11,000 kW-hours of electricity per year in 2007. The county-wide figure was about 9,000 kW-hours.

U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement – President Pfefferman formally received our request that the Village join 1,044 communities by signing the non-binding Agreement. We are hopeful that the Board of Trustees will consider this.

Ongoing

- Communicating through e-mail list, Blogger, and more recently, Facebook.
- Promoting green products and services to Glen Ellyn businesses.
- Lecturing at College of DuPage on energy policy and conservation.
- Developing a video with GWiz Marketing; among other things, this will cover energy improvements at District 89, and other eco group activities in Glen Ellyn.

Looking Forward

- Preparing an energy awareness and conservation lecture series.
- Providing technical input on lighting issues at Memorial Field.
- Providing network connection and collaborating with other local groups that address environmental issues, including a group of business professionals in Glen Ellyn.
- Looking at a series of Naperville Green Drinks” discussions about the “Transition Town” movement.
- **Why do this?** Climate change is not go away as an issue, and there is growing concern worldwide about whether the world will continue to have cheap and abundant energy supplies.

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