

energy&resourceadvisor



Winona State University and collaborative partners



Capacity Building for Clean Energy Action through Collaboration

In our Communities, Homes, and Workplaces
through the Energy & Resource Advisor (ERA)
certificate program

What is the ERA program?

- Online non-credit course for adult learners
- 40+ hours online
- 16 hours field experience at RELCs
- CERTs serves as the ongoing network
- Provides a broad understanding of energy conservation, efficiency, renewable energy, green jobs

Design Team

- Winona State University
- Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center
- Winona County Environmental Services
- CERTs
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife

- \$35,000 grant award from the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities (MnSCU) Innovation Funds

Resource partners

Over 30 national, state, regional organizations

- National Renewable Energy lab
- MN Pollution Control Agency
- American Wind Energy Association
- MN Dept of Energy Security
- RETScreen International
- U.S. Dept of Energy
- EPA

Curriculum Design

- Dr. Jeanne Franz, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry, WSU
- Numerous subject matter experts
- Online delivery by Teaching Learning Technology (TLT) staff at WSU

Target Audience

- Adult learners who want to make better decisions
- Community leaders and volunteers
- Building trades people
- Workplace sustainability teams
- Students, educators; realtors
- Facility and maintenance workers

First Cohort

- Instructor Rich Huelskamp, over 25 years experience
- 30 adult learners from around MN, MI and NC
- MN RELCs represented
- Carbon footprint at start and end of course

New MnSCU partners

- Central Lakes – Central
- Century – Metro
- Mesabi Range – Northeast
- Winona State - Southeast

ERA Advisors Can...

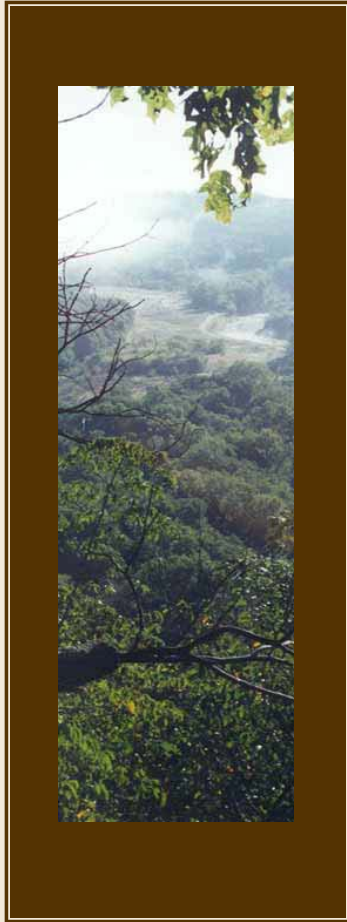
- Become leaders in their homes, workplaces, and communities on energy and sustainability issues.
- Learn the basics of energy efficiency for residences and businesses.
- Learn about alternative building options, ways to green up the home or business, and alternative transportation options.

ERA Advisors will...

- Understand small-scale renewable energy including site suitability, system sizing, and financial incentives that are available
- Understand basic concepts about clean energy, carbon emissions, resource conservation, and green technologies
- Update their skills for a green economy and identify new job opportunities

Eagle Bluff Weekend

The hands-on field component



Photos

**ERA-Shade Shadow
Demonstration**



Bob with Infrared Gun



Energy Efficient House- Milaster Home
Built from straw bail complete with a masonry furnace

Eagle Bluff Garden



Composting Bins



Compost Used in the Garden





Solar Pathfinder



LED People Powered Drill



Challenges

- Cost
- Time commitment
- High speed internet
- Online learning
- Working across institutions
- Sustainability
- Staying current in a rapidly changing field
- Engaging ERA advisors in our communities

Next Class

- Begins March 1
- Audubon Center of the North Woods
- Central Lakes College
- Century College
- Mesabi Range College
- Winona State University
- CERTs

QUESTIONS?

FOR MORE INFORMATION , go to
www.winona.edu/OCED/ERA.asp

