

Renewable Energy Task List for Schools



1) Get an energy baseline for your school

- kWh per month, per year, per student
- BTUs of heat, or gallons of heating fuel per month, per year, per student
- Gallons of transportation fuels

2) Assess what has already been done in terms of energy efficiency

3) Describe how renewable energy fits in with the schools mission

4) Describe classes that would benefit from an on-site installation/project

5) Describe how this installation would help meet curriculum standards

6) Engage players at your school

- Administrators
- School board
- Superintendents and principals
- Teachers
- Students

7) Establish/find a school champion

8) Have a town meeting - provide balanced information and data to community to accurately convey and address information and concerns

9) Engage people at township/city and county

- Township board/city council
- County board

- Administrators/officials
- Investigate local and county zoning restrictions

10) Engage local utility - discuss your ideas, options, and interconnection (do you have 3-phase or 1-phase?)

11) Evaluate your site (a quick overview to start) -

- General: topography, land use around the school (other structures), open access areas, access roads, location of power lines
- Solar: sunny spots, southern orientation
- Wind: look at topography, flag poles, wind maps, data from local airport or NOAA Weather Office

12) Discuss/Investigate financing options

- Bankers
- Sponsors/fundraisers
- Bonding
- Grants
- Low-interest loans

13) Survey our school district's land holding in the area (the district may have another property with a better wind profile)

14) Investigate manufacturers

- Where to buy your equipment
- How much does it cost
- What kind of warranties are available
- What kind of operation and maintenance plans are available

A PUBLICATION OF
THE REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

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