



## N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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### STATE ANNOUNCES ENERGY SAVINGS WORKSHOPS FOR N.C. BUSINESSES AND INSTITUTIONS

RALEIGH – The State Energy Office and N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources have joined forces to help North Carolina businesses, institutions and nonprofits reduce energy costs and consumption.

DENR's Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance and Waste Reduction Partners, a team of highly experienced volunteer engineers, architects and scientists in western North Carolina, has partnered with the State Energy Office to offer workshops aimed at helping organizations reduce energy use and save money with the rising costs of electricity and natural gas.

Many businesses may not have budgeted for rising energy costs. According to the State Energy Office, electric rates are up an average of six percent statewide since 2004, and natural gas costs have risen 30 percent so far this year and are expected to keep climbing.

“The Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance is in the business of helping organizations reduce waste,” said DENR Secretary Bill Ross. “By teaming up with the State Energy Office, the division will not only help these businesses and institutions reduce energy use, it will also help them save on operating costs.”

The Energy Savings workshops will be held at 15 locations across the state from Cullowhee to Wilmington (see p. 2 for schedule). During the three-hour workshops, participants will learn how to realize immediate energy savings and how to plan for future saving opportunities. In addition, technical assistance providers and energy experts will be on hand to answer questions and provide one-on-one advice.

“The State Energy Office has worked with industry and governmental agencies for several years,” stated Secretary Gwynn Swinson of the N.C. Department of Administration. “Our goal is to help businesses and other institutions save money by adopting no- and low-cost energy saving strategies for controlling energy costs.”

To sign up for these workshops, businesses and institutions can visit the N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance's Web site at <http://www.p2pays.org/energyreg> or call the State Energy Office at (800) 662-7131. To view the workshop flier, visit [www.p2pays.org/energyreg/energyworkshopflier.pdf](http://www.p2pays.org/energyreg/energyworkshopflier.pdf).

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All workshops are scheduled for 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

- Jan. 10      Wilmington - New Hanover County Cooperative Extension
- Jan. 10      Boone - ASU Student Union Center
- Jan. 11      Fayetteville - Cumberland County Cooperative Extension
- Jan. 11      Cullowhee – Western Carolina University Outreach Center
- Jan. 12      Rocky Mount - Edgecombe County Cooperative Extension
- Jan. 12      Asheville - N.C. Arboretum (Auditorium)
- Jan. 17      Greenville - Pitt Community College
- Jan. 17      Hickory - Catawba County Chamber of Commerce  
(BB&T Board Room)
- Jan. 18      Raleigh - Wake County Commons Building
- Jan. 18      N. Wilkesboro - Wilkes County Public Library (Conf. Room)
- Jan. 19      Elizabeth City - Pasquotank County Cooperative Extension
- Jan. 19      Charlotte - Betty Rae Thomas Recreation Center  
(Mecklenburg Cooperative Extension) **NOTE:** Time for  
this workshop is 8:30 a.m., with registration at 8 a.m.
- Jan. 19      Gastonia - Gaston County Citizens Resource Center -  
(Conference Room C) **NOTE:** Time for this workshop  
is 1:30-4:30 p.m., with registration at 1 p.m.
- Jan. 20      Roanoke Rapids - Halifax County Agricultural Center
- Jan. 20      High Point - Guilford Technical Community College  
(Entertainment Technical Building Room 203)

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