

News Release

Oconomowoc Utilities

April 17, 2009

Contact: Greg Hoffmann, (920) 723-3041

Oconomowoc Utilities' power supplier unveils net zero energy home

Local home energy saving projects encouraged

Local electric utility customers have access to a variety of energy-saving programs and services through Oconomowoc Utilities and its power supplier, WPPI Energy. In the days leading up to Earth Week, WPPI Energy, its member utilities, and two pioneering customers marked a significant milestone in energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy with the unveiling of the first GreenMax Home.

WPPI Energy and its members established the GreenMax Home initiative as part of an ongoing commitment to support renewable energy, energy conservation and energy efficiency. On April 16, Black River Falls' homeowners Tom and Verona Chambers unveiled their net zero energy home (NZEH), the first GreenMax Home. The Chambers' NZEH combine state-of-the-art, energy-saving technologies and practices with a solar photovoltaic renewable energy system and a ground source heat pump for a home that produces at least as much energy as it consumes.

"Projects like the GreenMax Home demonstrate the many energy-saving practices and technologies available to homeowners today," said Dennis Bednarski, Electric Operations Manager. "While not every customer may be ready to achieve 'net zero' impact, anyone can take steps to save energy at home. Our local utility is here to help."

The Chambers' GreenMax Home takes advantage of many of the same practical programs and services available to customers served by member utilities of WPPI Energy, including Oconomowoc Utilities. In addition to the GreenMax Home initiative, programs and services available to local customers include:

- The online Home Energy Suite, featuring an energy saving calculator and a variety of ideas for saving energy at home. Visit www.oconomowocutilities.com.
- The voluntary Renewable Energy Program, through which customers may choose to offset some or all of their energy use with purchases of renewable energy.

- Rebates, grants and incentives to encourage energy efficiency, conservation and the use of renewable energy.
- Energy education and presentations to help the next generation of energy users build a better energy future.

“As a community-owned utility, Oconomowoc Utilities is Oconomowoc’s local resource for helping customers save energy,” said Bednarski.

For more information about the GreenMax Home initiative, visit <http://www.greenmaxhome.com>. For additional information on energy-saving programs and services, customers may contact Greg Hoffmann at 569-3282.

#

Oconomowoc Utilities is a member of WPPI Energy, a regional power company serving 50 customer-owned electric utilities. Through WPPI Energy, these public power utilities share resources and own generation facilities to provide reliable, affordable electricity to more than 190,000 homes and businesses in Wisconsin, Upper Michigan and Iowa. Visit online at www.wppienergy.org.