



NeREC

Northeast Renewable Energy and
Conservation Working Group

Northeast
SunGrant
INITIATIVE

2008 NORTHEAST RENEWABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE

Penn Stater Conference Center
State College, Pennsylvania

AUGUST 26 - 28, 2008

Renewable Energy – It's on everyone's mind. The 2008 Northeast Renewable Energy Conference is designed to provide a wealth of practical information that will help organizations, individuals, and communities thrive in our rapidly changing energy landscape.

The conference program showcases renewable energy and energy efficiency research, demonstrations, and university-industry-government partnerships for sustainable economic development. Presentations by experts and practitioners from around the region are organized in five tracks:

1. Biomass Conversion;
2. Bioenergy Production;
3. Wind, Hydro, and Bioproducts;
4. Solar and Energy Efficiency; and
5. Economic Development.

There will also be a special 6th track of "Energy Basics" mini-courses that provide in-depth introductions to these topics. A final set of break-out sessions will focus on developing renewable energy roadmaps for the region.

Join more than 300 attendees from across the Northeast, Ohio, Michigan and beyond. Poster abstracts can be submitted through the website by August 8th, and companies should sign-up for the trade show also by August 8th.

Sponsors include the Northeast Sun Grant Initiative, the Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, Northeast SARE, and other companies and organizations.

The conference planning committee is conference chair Tom Richard (Penn State); Tom Fretz (NE Sun Grant); Mike Hoffman, Larry Walker and NE Sun Grant staff (Cornell); Steve Slack (Ohio State); Dan Rossi (NERA); Doug Lantagne (U.Vermont); Jim Vincent (NY); Hank Clark (ME); Steve Pueppke (Michigan State); Rick Handley (NE Biomass Working Group); and Vern Grubinger (NE SARE).

For more information about the conference please visit the Northeast SunGrant Initiative at www.nesungrant.cornell.edu/ or the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment at www.psiee.psu.edu.

Conference Agenda

Monday August 25

7- 9 pm Early bird reception and registration

Tuesday August 26

7:30 am Continental Breakfast and registration

8:30 Welcome – Larry Walker, NE Sun Grant – Chair of NERA and/or NEED (TBD), supporting federal agencies

9:30 NE Sun Grant Competitive Funding Program – Summary of 2007 and 2008 awards and 2009 RFA – Tom Fretz

10:00 Break

10:30 Break-out session I

12:00 Lunch and poster viewing

1:30 Break-out session II

3:00 Break

3:30 Plenary session – Pennsylvania’s Energy Initiatives (TBD)

4:30 Poster session and reception (piano, hors d’oeuvres, no-host bar)

6:30 Dinner - Dinner speaker

Wednesday August 27

7:30 am Continental Breakfast and registration

8:00 Plenary Session - Economic development and financing – Focus on the challenges and opportunities

Speakers (sources): Government Funding, Carbon Credits, Venture Capital

Panelists (recipients): Farm, local business, high-tech start-up

10:00 Break

10:30 Break-out session III

12:00 Lunch and poster viewing

1:30 Break-out session IV

*Represents the NE Directors of Cooperative Extension (NEED) and Agricultural Experiment Stations (NERA) and Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET)

3:00 Break

3:30 Break-out session V

5:00 Poster session and reception (piano, hors d’oeuvres, no-host bar)

6:30 Dinner – On your own

Thursday August 28

7:30 am Continental Breakfast and registration

8:00 Plenary – Partnerships for Success (3 speakers)

Featured partnerships: industrial innovation rural economic development, and environmental stewardship

9:30 Break

10:00 Break-out session VI – Planning for the future

12:00 Lunch and adjourn. Wrap up comments – Tom Richard

Conference Format

Each 90 minute break-out session will include approximately 3 panelists, speaking approximately 20 minutes each including specific questions. A moderator will then facilitate a discussion to identify three critical opportunities, while a recorder takes notes.

The “Energy Basics” mini-courses will be in lecture format, typically with one or two speakers. The final break out sessions will be planning sessions to integrate the previously identified opportunities and develop renewable energy roadmaps for the region. Follow up will include roadmaps and presentations posted on the web.

Hotel Reservations

A block of rooms has been reserved for the Northeast Renewable Energy Conference at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center for \$109/per night plus any applicable taxes. Please reserve your room by Friday, July 25. Reference that you are with the Northeast Renewable Energy Conference or Sun Grant Conference to assure the group rate.

Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center

215 Innovation Blvd.

State College, PA 16803

Toll-Free: 800-233-7505

Phone: 814-863-5050

Fax: 814-863-5003

Website: www.pshs.psu.edu

E-Mail: pshs@psu.edu

Conference Organizers

Northeast Sun Grant and Northeast Renewable Energy and Conservation Working Group*

Northeast Sun Grant Initiative:

<http://www.nesungrant.cornell.edu/>

Northeast Renewable Energy and Conservation Working Group:

<http://northeastenergy.umd.edu/>

Conference Website

<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=fadbc930-c7ca-411d-a097-99f0ec8d564f>