

2009 Annual Report: More Co-op Power to You!

Strengthening communities through the spirit of cooperation is what Co-op Power is all about! 2009 was an amazing year with new businesses and many new collaborations established throughout New England.



In February, Co-op Power had its annual Leadership Training retreat in Shelburne Falls. The community opened up to us as we conducted seminars, installations and weatherization work throughout the town. Participants came from all over New England and beyond!

So much momentum has been created over the past five years – so much to celebrate. Here are just a few of the highlights of 2009:

- Dozens of members saving \$4,000-\$5,000 on solar hot water installations
- We have saved our members over \$70,000 in discounts, rebates and tax incentives through our Neighbors helping Neighbors (formerly Member 2 Member) program this year alone!
- 16 solar hot water installations this year
- We have developed important clean energy curriculum for Greenfield and Holyoke Community Colleges
- We have a new logo thanks to Spartan Giordano! Please let us know if you would like to beautify your property with our new lawn signs.

More Highlights of 2009 -

- 5th annual sustainable energy summit: Bigger than ever with 500 participants, over 60 exhibitors, 40 presenters and 5 high profile keynote speakers.
- Conferences! Co-op Power had a great presence at the NESEA conference in Boston in March. We also participated in the North Quabbin Arts and Garlic Festival, the Boston Greenfest, the Vermont Greenfest, NOFA, Green Party Coalition, Greenfield Festival, Franklin County Fair, Vermont Renewable Energy Conference, Project 350, and more
- New businesses launched: Roots Up, Energia, and Partners for Greener Building
- Renewed, more attainable plans (3.5 million gal/yr vs. 10m) for Northeast Biodiesel and a viable property in sight
- Over 5,000 households of Co-op Power supporters
- Over 200 active volunteers engaged in creating a sustainable energy future



- One of the most successful and rewarding community outreach programs of the year was the work and training Co-op Power did with the Roots Up youth group at Nuestras Raices in Holyoke. The guys (pictured above) learned many skills (here they are "sweating" pipes) to help them find jobs or start their own business.

Co-op Power's 5th Annual Summit



Co-op Power's 5th annual Sustainable Energy Summit at UMass Amherst in May, 2009. Peter Talmage teaches a diverse group the hands-on skills of solar analysis and design. This was one of over 60 workshops, presentations and professional training conducted.

We have brought on 6 new installers throughout MA and VT greatly increasing our network of installers throughout New England. VT has had a lot of new activity with numerous site visits that we expect to turn into installations in the near future.

We are excited to have brought on new suppliers and partners such as Premier, Friends of the Sun, Thermal House, WinSupply, and Partners for Greener Building to complement our amazing group of existing suppliers such as Stiebel-Eltron, FW Webb, Rice Oil, Precision Heat, Warm and Toasty window covering, Advanced Energy Panels, Energy Federation incorporated, and Better World Club.



Nothing but blue sky and sunshine on this beautiful October day for one of our many Neighbors-helping-Neighbors solar hot water installations. Safety is always first with the Roof Team wearing harnesses as they put a solar collector into position.

Coming up in 2010 -

- Your managers: Lynn is now our Manager of Business Development, Karen Ribeiro is our new General Manager, Paul Schmidt is Managing the new Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Efficiency program, and Pam Howland will be our new Products & Services Manager

Franklin & Hampden County Local Organizing Councils-

- We have a grant to do a feasibility analysis of District Heating in Greenfield
- And we are staffing green job training programs in Turners Falls and Holyoke to prepare people of color, young people and people from limited resource communities to work in our new businesses.

Metro East Local Organizing Council -

- We received a grant for 12 weatherizations in the Roxbury/Dorchester neighborhoods
- We have applied to be the startup CEO for the new Boston Energy Services Company

Southern VT Local Organizing Council -

- We have 25 members and are putting plans together to maximize all local partnerships, starting small with neighborhood installs.