

WEST

Taking Action For a Sustainable Energy Future in Holland

“To know in truth is to allow one's self to be known as well, to be vulnerable to the challenges and changes any true relationship brings.” To Know as We Are Known, Parker J. Palmer

Stepping up, stepping out, pitching in... to change your community.

What specific commitments will you make today, translating knowledge into action?

1. Invite Sara and Don to speak to your civic group (Rotary, Evergreen Commons, church class) Or make the presentation yourself, using our materials or others.
2. Give us your email address so we can keep you informed of local energy initiatives.
3. Write a letter to your newspaper, our (new) mayor, your City Council member, the City Sustainability Committee, your state and federal congressional representative.
4. Come to a WEST meeting about local energy initiatives. Bring a friend or two.
5. Start a petition drive in favor of a balanced plan (conservation, demand management, renewables along with coal) for Holland's energy future.
6. Host a dinner party or a “coffee klatch” to discuss energy issues.
7. Organize a “Sustainability Booth” at or near the Farmers Market, Kollen Park, local sporting events.. Invite local groups from BPW to the Sierra Club, from Hope and Calvin, from Garden Clubs to Audubon Society to take turns showing their “stuff.”
8. Join neighbors to invite your City Council member to a ward meeting on energy.
9. Convene a “Sustainable Housing” group. Join local non-profits (Jubilee Ministries, Habitat for Humanity), local “green entrepreneurs” (DwellTech and Viability) to national models (Babylon Project) to achieve 1000 housing retrofits per year.
10. Petition Hope College to designate energy as the “critical issues” topic for 2010.
11. Add your other ideas...

If you would like to get involved in tasks like these, please contact Don Triezenberg at don.triezenberg@gmail.com