



Warwickshire Climate Change Community Newsletter

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership

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Free heat pump for vulnerable households pioneered by Lighthorne Heath, Warwickshire

E.ON, one of the UK's leading power and gas companies, has become the first energy supplier in the UK to offer its HeatPlant ground source heat pump technology for free to coal-fuelled vulnerable communities.

It is estimated that more than a quarter of a million people in the UK are currently using coal to heat their homes. Many of these rural and inner city households have to rely on coal because they are either not on the mains gas supply network or simply cannot afford to make the alterations required to make their home more energy efficient.

To tackle this 19th century problem, E.ON is offering a 21st century solution – the E.ON HeatPlant, a ground source heat pump. The company is offering the system fully installed, including central heating and hot water plumbing, free of charge to coal-fuelled households on qualifying benefits – a package worth up to £11,500 – a system it has already installed in the village of Lighthorne Heath in Warwickshire. Mike Newell, low carbon manager at E.ON, said:

“After the huge success of HeatPlant in Lighthorne Heath, we’re delighted to be launching this initiative across the country. Not only will it enable us to offer another valuable option to customers who are currently coal heated, we hope it will bring local communities together while benefiting the surrounding environment.”

In addition, E.ON is offering significantly discounted HeatPlant systems for householders using electric, oil and LPG heating.

The pioneering HeatPlant technology relies on extracting natural heat from 80m below the ground and using it to heat homes and water. The technology is similar to the way a fridge uses a refrigerant to extract heat from the inside, keeping the food cool, except with ground source heat pumps the heat is extracted from the ground and keeps the home warm.

While offering residents a much more convenient, cost effective and environmentally-friendlier energy alternative, the HeatPlant could also reduce heating costs by two thirds and CO2 emissions by three quarters a year.

By working with MPs, local community groups and local authorities, E.ON will be finding eligible customers to provide them with clean, green and cost-effective warmth. Eligible applicants can apply at <http://www.eonenergy.com/heatplant>.

The offer is open to groups of six or more households where at least one resident in each property is receiving a means-tested benefit. Households must currently be heated by coal and have no mains gas supply.



Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership Community Conference

Taking place on Saturday the 19th of September at Brandon Marsh Nature Centre. This event will take place from 10 till 1pm. There will be a number of speakers aimed at informing local communities of the action they can take and the support available to community groups. Confirmed speakers include Encraft, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and the Environment Agency. If you would be interested in attending this event please email emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk as spaces are limited.

Switch It Off 2009



Calling on people from all over Coventry, Warwickshire and Worcestershire to take part in this years Switch It Off campaign. This will run during the week beginning the 9th of November, finishing with the Big Switch Off scheduled for Friday 13th November between 4:30-6:30.

The campaign is designed to show the electrical savings that can be achieved when a lot of people turn off unwanted lights and electrical appliances left on standby. If everyone across the three regions joins in we could expect to save about £23 million a year; just by switching off items left on standby.

According to the Energy Saving Trust nationally 71% of people regularly leave items on standby in their homes and 65% of people leave lights on in rooms they are not using.

Video, set top boxes, televisions and even the clocks on microwaves are using surprisingly high amounts of power everyday in our homes. The average family spends £400 a year on electricity and up to 25% can be slashed from this being more energy aware and switching off unused appliances.

This year we have a mixture of initiatives taking place during Switch It Off week so it's easy to get involved.

Dine by candle light – Why not dine by candle light in one of Warwickshire's restaurants during switch it off week, (a full list of restaurants taking part will be published nearer the time)

Community Artist – Gabrielle Back a local community artist is willing to work with community groups on environmental projects during switch it off week (if interested please email emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Universally Challenged – Encourage your local secondary school to take part in this green quiz for schools, teams of six year eight pupils compete to answer a wide range of sustainability based questions.

Giveaways – A number of giveaways will be taking place across the three regions to spread the Switch It Off message

Switch It Off Communications – why not advertise the Switch It Off campaign in your local newsletter or display posters on you village/town notice boards (posters available to print off web site or email emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Energy Efficiency Evening – hold an energy efficiency evening informing local residents how they can be more energy efficient and what grant are out there to help (if interested please email emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk to arrange a speaker and/or resources)

Last year thousands of people took part across Warwickshire, Coventry and Worcestershire, and during the Big Switch Off helped to achieve a combined drop of 97 MWh in peak demand. And this year we want to do even better. So why not run a Switch It Off campaign with your own local group? This will help promote the campaign and get more people involved. For further information and to download free posters and resources, just click on the campaigns website at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchitoff

Have your say



This is your newsletter and your opportunity to publicise any events you may be holding, and let other groups know what you are currently up to share your experiences. What do you want to see in future editions?

Please send all comments or enquiries about this newsletter and suggestions, for news items, case studies, details of events etc to emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

Tip Of The Month: Waste Reduction



- Use reusable cloth shopping bags instead of plastic bags.
- Buy durable rather than disposable products. This will save you money in the long run.
- Only buy products in the amount you will use. There is no point in buying in bulk to save money, if you will end up wasting a large quantity of the product because it will go off before you want it.