

PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY ASSISTS NEW VISION WITH ENERGY AUDITS

Philippi, WV – **New Vision Renewable Energy** announces the first of several comprehensive energy audits to be conducted by the West Virginia University Division of Design & Merchandising on October 20, 2011. The local community partner ministry, The Storehouse of God, is working with New Vision to bring renewable energy solutions to the community on Bertha Hill and the surrounding area.

Several families were selected to participate in the New Vision Morgantown Renewable Energy Project where families learn how to lower their power bills and convert their home to renewable energy. As a participant in this project, families work with their neighbors to become knowledgeable with the concepts and principles of renewable energy systems; instructed and assisted on how to build and install an electrical and/or hot water solar system for their home and the community facility, The Storehouse of God. The families see firsthand the dramatic reduction in their monthly electrical expenses and will track those savings over an extended period of time.

New Vision Renewable Energy is a faith-based nonprofit organization who has developed a sustainable photovoltaic solar system that can be packaged in “kits” that will help a family drastically lower their energy output while becoming energy producers. New Vision is working with WVU to conduct an energy audit on each home to identify opportunities for making the homes as efficient as possible. The efficient homes will maximize the potential of the renewable energy systems. Homeowners are becoming empowered knowing that renewable energy *is* affordable and often includes common sense solutions. This project is funded by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and supported by the West Virginia University Division of Design & Merchandising and the Mechanical Engineering Department.

ABOUT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY DIVISION OF DESIGN & MERCHANDISING:

As Visiting Assistant Professor of Sustainable Design, Chris Haddox is leading the development of an interdisciplinary initiative in sustainable design in the Division of Design & Merchandising at WVU. His interest in sustainable design and green building was honed during his 9.5 years as Executive Director of Mon County Habitat for Humanity in Morgantown. Chris is LEED Accredited and holds the Green Advantage Residential and Commercial green certifications. He is also a certified energy rater with RESNET. Chris can be reached at chris.haddox@mail.wvu.edu or by phone at 304.293.3657.

ABOUT NEW VISION:

New Vision Renewable Energy was launched in Philippi, West Virginia in 2009 and is growing as a grassroots community-based organization working to reenergize communities to implement renewable energy solutions in their own neighborhoods. New Vision is an educational and innovation movement focusing on applicable technologies within the emerging “green” economy. They serve as a hub of collaborative discussion, training and invention bringing together green innovators, community leaders, youth, companies, organizations as well as public and private partners. On Earth Day, April 22nd, 2010, the group completed its first community manufactured solar energy system at the Peoples Chapel Church in the Chestnut Ridge community of Barbour County, West Virginia. Visit www.NewVisionRenewableEnergy.org or find us on Facebook for more details.

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