

2009 Living Green Expo Newsletter Article

Help us promote the Expo!

Help us spread the word about the Living Green Expo by putting an article in your organization's newsletter or on your website. Because your audience may be interested in different parts of the Expo, use this entire article or just part. Pictures are available at www.livinggreen.org/media.cfm

If you need additional information about any of these topics, or would like a longer article for your publication, please contact: Britt Carlson at britt.carlson@pca.state.mn.us.

Save it, Try it, Learn it, Buy it at the Living Green Expo

Minnesota State Fair Grounds, St. Paul

May 2-3, 2009

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The 8th Annual Living Green Expo will feature over 250 exhibitors who offer practical advice on how to make effective, sustainable choices. Learn from the experts in one of the 62 workshops. Get in on the latest green technologies. Connect with others who value green living.

At Minnesota's largest environmental event, you'll find everything from how to compost and reduce toxicity in your home, to using the latest energy-saving technology, to cooking with organic, locally grown food. This family-friendly event features kids' activities and an exciting music lineup.

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Admission is free! Secure bike storage is available and Metro Transit is offering free rides to the Expo using the Go Greener Pass. Visit www.livinggreen.org for more information on exhibitors, workshops and activities.

2009 Highlights: Add interesting topics to your newsletter article

Outdoor Living

Learn to green your lawn and garden in the "outdoor living" tent. There will be over 20 exhibitors, 8 workshops, and a large backyard composting display. Talk with experts and attend workshops on cold frames and greenhouses, organic lawn care, rain gardens, recycled patio furniture, compost, and more. Whether you have a condo balcony or a multi-acre lot, you'll find something for your outdoor space in the outdoor living tent.

With the Family

Bring your entire family to the Expo - you'll find plenty to do! The kids' area on the upper level will offer a smorgasbord of activities and special events for the whole family, including the Minnesota Zoo Mobile, seeds to plant and take home, and activities from the Minnesota Children Museum. On the main level, you can crawl inside the Earth Balloon, a 20-foot diameter model of the earth. Inside, you will explore the earth through an interactive lesson.

Healthy Sustainable Food

As always, healthy sustainable food is a part of the event. Visit the Food Demonstration Stage for tasty ideas about how to use local, seasonal foods. Next to the stage, you can meet local farmers at the Food and Farm Festival. Workshops are planned that will help you buy sustainable food on a budget, can and freeze your extra produce, and make sustainable seafood choices. The adventurous can even learn how to keep backyard chickens. If all this information makes you hungry, you can munch on food from Chipotle Mexican Grill, French Meadow Bakery, French Crepes, and Galactic Pizza.

Save Energy and Money

Over 20 energy-related vendors will demonstrate smart energy conservation with products and ideas that can help you save energy and reduce costs! Water heater blankets, plug-in outlet insulators, solar attic fans, clothes drying racks, and simple-to-install day lighting systems can help you save on your electricity, heating, and cooling bills. The workshop tents are filled with sessions on renewable energy, energy saving tips, and home energy audits.

Green Building

The 2009 Living Green Expo will have loads of information about green design, construction, remodeling, and interior house work. Attend workshops such as *Residential Building Codes for Green Homes* and *Designing and Remodeling a Non-toxic Basement* for more information. Then, tour the newly constructed, green Minnesota AFL-CIO building two blocks from the Grandstand on the State Fair Grounds. Learn about the building's green features, stay for kids' activities and workshops on green building topics.

Discover New Ways to Get Places

Transportation options – whether on foot, bike, bus, or car – are rapidly changing. Vendors and workshops will help you combine multiple modes of transportation in to your lifestyle. And if you are ready for a new car, or just want to see what technology is around the corner, come to the alternative vehicle tent. You can see and learn about the Tesla Roadster electric car, plug-in and new model hybrids, a natural gas vehicle, converted gas-to-electric vehicles, and a neighborhood electric vehicle.