

## What's the Buzz?

Bill Good, Chief Operations Officer for DMPS, will be speaking to state employees about DMPS energy conservation efforts on April 20, in honor of Earth Week!

### Results of DMPS recycling for calendar year 2009:

- 17,140 lbs of scrap metal
- 169.25 tons of paper and cardboard
- 2270 gallons of used oil
- 10,900 lbs of spent fluorescent bulbs and ballasts
- Paints and science chemicals
- E-waste, some equipment is redistributed or used for parts and the rest is recycled
- Compost yard debris

*"Pollution is nothing but the resources we are not harvesting. We allow them to disperse because we've been ignorant of their value."*  
-R. Buckminster Fuller

## Did You Know?

"Older electric products in homes, schools, and workplaces are much less efficient than today's ENERGY STAR® qualified models. Continuing to operate inefficient products costs you money and generates excessive greenhouse gas emissions. Properly recycling electric products permanently removes them from the electric grid, conserves resources, and makes room for more energy-efficient models."

Source: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

Click on the logo to learn more about recycling with ENERGY STAR.



## DMPS Environmental Stewards

*The Des Moines Public School District staff and students are committed to utilizing conservation actions and strategies to optimizing our limited resources and reduce the environmental impact to contribute to a healthy, sustainable world.*



South Union Playground

Fiscal year-to-date (FYTD) February 2010 compared to fiscal year-to-date (FYTD) February 2009, the district has consumed 21,344,219 kBtu less energy resulting in the reduction of 11,677,199 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions which equates to the annual greenhouse gas emissions from 1,013 passenger vehicles. Des Moines Schools have also reduced water consumption for the same period by 1,500,108 cubic feet. In addition to the district's energy conservation actions, other strategies are in place to protect our environment.

- Recycling: (2009 results to the left) The district is in the process of expanding its recycling program, which will allow the recycling of plastics, aluminum and other materials. Look for more information next school year!
- Anti-Idling: The Transportation Department has implemented an anti-idling campaign to conserve fuel. According to Todd Liston, Transportation Manager, "Idling a diesel engine for one hour typically consumes 1/2 gallon of diesel fuel; while individually the number may look small, a fleet of 130 buses that operate for an entire school year—the savings can really add up!"
- Purchasing: The district purchases recycled products when possible; such as paper towels, toilet tissue. It is also standard practice to purchase ENERGY STAR® labeled appliances and electronics.
- Safety with eco-friendly materials: Providing a safe environment for children to play is important so the district uses **playground tiles** made from recycled rubber material which provides a safer surface with a 75% reduction in serious injuries and reduces maintenance according to the National Playground Compliance Group.

## 40th Anniversary Earth Day

*Check out what some of our schools are doing in celebration of Earth Day ...*



- Moulton: Neighborhood cleanup, environmental resources available to all students and will have a presenter from SOAR on April 23.
- Greenwood: Kindergarten will spend the week learning about the earth working on projects and taking a litter walk and an Earth walk.
- Wright: Students will be going on a school-wide trash walk around the community streets on April 15.
- Merrill: 6th grade—Students will observe Earth Day with a read aloud and celebrate into May with an ecology service field trip and speakers on May 24 & 26.
- Scavo: The week of April 19-23, students will be cleaning, raking, etc. at local businesses & neighbors.
- Brody: 7th graders will be kicking off their ecology unit, 6th grade will be cleaning up the school grounds, and other teachers have planned activities with an Earth Day theme.

To learn about Earth Day events or to calculate your eco-footprint you can click or visit [www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net) or visit the EPA's Earth Day Web site at [www.epa.gov/earthday](http://www.epa.gov/earthday).

## Check It Out On The Web



### Methane Gas

**Methane gas** is another harmful greenhouse gas but also a primary component of the natural gas that is used for cooking and heating. Landfills are one source of this gas so to utilize a valuable resource and reduce an environmental hazard Metro Waste has partnered with MidAmerican Energy to build and operate the metro Methane Recovery Facility. The gas collected is turned into electricity that is distributed to our homes and business. Click on this link to learn more [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com).



**Methane Recover Facility**

**Not sure about the what, how, and where to recycle?** Visit Metro Waste Authority's Web site at [www.mwatoday.com](http://www.mwatoday.com) to learn what you can recycle, what you can't, and **what happens to all that stuff.** (click to view a cool video of the Curb it! Processing Facility)



**What do I do with that paint and brake fluid in the garage?** The Regional Collection Center is home for the Swap Shop, which is a place you can drop off household hazardous waste like latex paint. It is also a place where you can pick up household materials for free. Visit or click [www.mwatoday.com/facilities](http://www.mwatoday.com/facilities).



**I want a new energy efficient refrigerator, but what do I do with that old one?**

Visit MidAmerican Energy's Web site at [www.midamericanenergy.com/ee](http://www.midamericanenergy.com/ee) to take advantage of their **appliance recycling program**. MAE is offering free removal and a cash rebate for old refrigerators, freezers and window air conditioners. Please do not bring the old appliances to school.

# ENERGY REPORT CARD

## YEAR-TO-DATE SITE ENERGY USAGE REPORT

July 1, 2009 – February 28, 2010

Percentage change as compared to the same time period from previous year  
Ranked Lowest to Highest Energy User (measured in kBtu/sq ft)

Site	% Chg as compared to '08-'09	kBtu/ Sq Ft	Site	% Chg as compared to '08-'09	kBtu/ Sq Ft
Wakonda Ste 23 ♦		2	Phillips	-4%	43
McKee ♦		12	Central Academy	-14%	44
Operations Center		13	Downtown School		45
King ■		17	East Academy	-2%	45
Stowe	-7%	17	Howe	-4%	46
Hillis	-3%	18	Moulton	-19%	47
Morris	-16%	18	Casady	4%	49
Perkins	-4%	19	Walnut Street	-7%	51
South Union	-9%	19	Harding	-12%	52
Brubaker	-13%	20	Welcome Center	-1%	52
Greenwood	-9%	20	Cowles	-4%	53
Hanawalt	-9%	21	Mann (Jackson)	1%	53
Carver	-7%	22	Central Campus •	-16%	54
Goodrell	-8%	23	Lincoln	-2%	55
Samuelson	-13%	23	Lincoln South	-4%	56
Oak Park	-10%	24	Hoyt	-2%	57
Windsor	20%	24	Hoover/ Meredith	1%	58
Callanan	-18%	26	Madison	-13%	58
Capitol View	-18%	29	Lovejoy	-6%	60
Cattell	-9%	30	East	10%	61
Weeks	-6%	30	Hiatt	-1%	64
Woodlawn	-23%	30	River Plaza	-6%	64
McKinley	-14%	34	Studebaker	-9%	64
Garton	17%	36	Edmunds	13%	65
Monroe	-22%	37	Merrill ~	-8%	68
Willard	1%	37	McCombs	-24%	71
Hubbell	-4%	38	Van Meter	-3%	73
Findley	-7%	40	Roosevelt •	-8%	74
Pleasant Hill	-3%	40	Brody	-2%	75
River Woods	-27%	40	McCombs Greenhouse	-9%	79
Aviation Lab	-7%	41	Park Ave	-2%	79
Wright	2%	42	North	-3%	82
Facility Mgmt	2%	43	Smouse	-7%	90
Jefferson	-12%	43			

- Building under construction comparison year 2008-09
- Building occupied during renovations

- ◆ Building unoccupied part of comparison year 2008-09
- ~ Meter problem resolved, corrected data

Visit [www.dmps.k12.ia.us](http://www.dmps.k12.ia.us) for more details of the district's energy mission and building performance.

**Tell us about it!** Do you want to share your ideas for saving energy or helping our environment? Or want to let us know about your projects? E-mail

[lisa.simpson@dmps.k12.ia.us](mailto:lisa.simpson@dmps.k12.ia.us).

