

Fall 2024 Events:

From Rewiring America:

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at Noon CT

Why Electrify November



Why Electrify is a 101 course that breaks down what “electrify everything” means in plain English. In a unique and interactive online course, learn how electrification helps people save money, builds stronger communities, improves our health, and allows people to take positive, powerful steps to meet our climate goals. If you’ve heard about “electrify everything” but need more context, or you’re curious to get started and looking for resources, join us!

In brief, “electrify everything” means replace any machine that currently burns fossil fuels with an electric version AND power that electric machine with clean, renewable energy. In the U.S., 350,000 premature deaths are attributable to fossil fuel pollution. To learn more and/or register for this Zoom event, visit: <https://events.rewiringamerica.org/whyelectrifynovember> .

Tuesday, November 12 from 6:30pm – 8pm CT



Lakes and Prairies Solar 101

Hosted by Solar United Neighbors

Location: West Central Research and Outreach Center, 46352 MN-329, Morris, MN.

Learn about solar energy and its benefits for your home, or small business. We’ll take you through the technology, economics, financing and more. You’ll also learn about the Solar Co-op in your area. The program is free to join, and members are not obligated to buy solar panels.

Join the co-op at <https://solarunitedneighbors.org/LakesAndPrairies>

Members will get:

- A free review of your roof to see if solar panels will work for you
- One-on-one support for all your questions about going solar
- Help with installer proposals, selection and installation expectations

This presentation from the experts at Solar United Neighbors will answer all your questions about going solar. You’ll learn about the solar program, solar technology, and financial considerations for going solar.

After signing up, Solar United Neighbors may contact you by email or phone with campaign updates and other offers of engagement. You can unsubscribe at any time.

To register, visit: <https://www.mobilize.us/solarunitedneighbors/event/698389/>

From the MN Department of Commerce via MN CERTs:

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 from 11am – Noon CT Managing EV Charging in Minnesota: Strategies that Work for the Electric Grid and Consumers



Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption is growing rapidly in Minnesota, with nearly 7 percent of all light-duty vehicles purchased in 2023 being electric. As of 2023, there were approximately 50,000 light-duty EVs registered in Minnesota, representing about 1 percent of light-duty vehicles in the state. Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. (Synapse) used an in-house model called EV-REDI to develop forecasts for EV stocks and sales in Minnesota for each year through 2030. Using possible EV adoption trajectories, Synapse estimated the energy consumption and peak demand impacts associated with EV charging. Their analysis demonstrates the benefit that managed EV charging can have on mitigating adverse impacts to the distribution system.

Synapse's CARD white paper, "Charging Minnesota's Electric Vehicles-Strategies that Work for the Electric Grid and Consumers" assesses the potential energy and peak demand impacts from a possible range of EV adoption scenarios, examines how Minnesota's electric utilities are promoting greater adoption of EVs while mitigating the associated impacts on the electric system, and provides recommendations for program improvements based on industry best practices and lessons learned from other jurisdictions.

To register for this online event, visit:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/webink/register/ra01d6d8d7aafbe20ddd66a38ca4aae91>

or via MN CERTs:

<https://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/managing-ev-charging-minnesota>

From Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light:

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 So What Comes Next? A Post-Election Debrief IN-PERSON: 5:00-6:00PM, Statewide via Zoom: 6-7:30pm CT



Whatever the outcome, this election will have a big impact on our work and our communities. As we figure out what comes next, it's important for us to continue to build and nurture interconnected relationships with folks who care about our world and people who live in it.

Join MN IPL on Wednesday, November 13 for a statewide online conversation about how this election has affected us and how we can continue to push forward with our work. If you're local, we're inviting people into our space to join the call together with an open house beforehand.

For further details, and/or to register, visit:

<https://www.mnipl.org/event/post-election-debrief/>



Wednesday, November 13, 5:30pm – 7:30pm CT
Electrify Everything: Home electrification for health, comfort, & climate

Electrify Everything Minnesota is a program that shares how to electrify your home and connect you with incentives, contractors, and resources to accomplish your home energy goals. Electrify Everything workshops provide step by step guidance so households can develop a plan to electrify their homes on a realistic timeline and take full advantage of federal, state and local financial incentives. Whether you want to improve home health and safety, lower your impact on the environment, keep upfront costs down, or have an old appliance you're planning to replace, you'll leave the workshop with a plan of action.

This workshop will include:

- Presentation on the pillars of home electrification: insulation and air sealing, heat pumps for heating and cooling, heat pump hybrid water heaters, clothes dryers, induction stoves, and electrical service upgrades
- Activities to allow you to ask questions about specific electrification steps and technologies
- Overview of financial incentives, planning assistance, and preferred contractors for electrification projects

Location: Lake Superior College, 2101 Trinity road, Duluth, MN 55811

To reserve a spot for this free event, visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/electrify-everything-home-electrification-for-health-comfort-climate-tickets-1008419609197>

CERTs and Electrify Everything MN are thrilled to be hosting this workshop in Duluth! All homeowners and renters are welcome, and light refreshments will be provided. Electrify Everything Minnesota is managed by the Center for Energy and Environment and is supported by statewide foundation partners and the local governments of Edina, Eden Prairie, Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, and Hennepin County.

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From CMC Member Donna Roost:

Wednesday, November 13 from 7pm-8:30pm CT and Wednesday, November 20 from 7pm-8:30pm CT Third Act Move your Money Webinar Series



Did you know your money could be fueling climate change without you knowing it? Your financial decisions have power—power to align with your values and make a difference. Join us for the **Move Your Money Webinar Series** on Zoom in mid-November and learn how to transition your finances away from fossil-fuel-backed institutions towards sustainable, impactful investments.

Why This Matters for Us, Especially as Seniors:

- We each have decades of experience, wisdom and resources to make deeply informed and impactful choices.
- Our collective financial influence is undeniable, and we can use it to drive real change.
- Most importantly, we have a profound responsibility to leave a healthy planet for future generations, especially our children and grandchildren.

Led by **Third Act Upstate New York's Michael Richardson**, this series will show you how to:

- *Redirect your finances* to align with your values and vision for the future.
- *Stop funding fossil fuels* and begin supporting clean energy, local businesses, and resilient communities.
- *Invest in a sustainable tomorrow* by supporting renewable energy and responsible, community-centered initiatives.

Here's What Each Session Offers (Wednesdays, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM CT):

- **Part 1 (November 13):**
 - Learn about responsible banking, credit cards, and insurance choices.
 - Spot the banks funding fossil fuels and those supporting local ventures.
 - Discover practical strategies to make the biggest impact by moving your money.
 - To register, visit: <https://thirdact-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsf-mopj8vHNSkvaHOHNSak-WKj54a08b2>
- **Part 2 (November 20):**
 - Q&A session for questions from Part 1
 - Uncover insights into sustainable funds and alternative investments.
 - Connect with environmentally conscious financial advisors who understand your goals.
 - To register, visit: <https://thirdact-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpf-yuqTojHd3wKDVmq-niJe01IaMUGhV>

After you register for each Zoom webinar, you will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link plus a link to add the webinar to your own calendar. We'll also be sending reminders to those who registered prior to each webinar.

Money is the driving force behind fossil fuel development. This is our time to use our voice and resources to spark lasting change. **Don't miss out—register today** so we can use our economic resources to finance a cleaner, more sustainable future.

From MN350.org:

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm CT
Electric School Buses Info Session – via MN 350

The MN350 Clean Transportation Team is hosting a virtual webinar on November 20th from 6:30-8 pm to talk about the current EPA's 2024 Clean School Bus Rebate Program, which is open now until January 9th. Learn about current funding, and hear from others as to how electric school buses have worked in their district, and what lessons have been learned to help ease any range, temperature, or route anxiety districts may have. For further details, and/or to register, visit:

<https://mn350.org/events/electric-school-buses-info-session-how-you-can-get-en-esb-in-your-district-today>

From Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light:

Thursday, November 21, 2024 from 7pm- 8pm CT
Heat Pump Helpers: Process Over Product



Join MNIPL's Bret Pence and Rachel Wagner, Creative and Technical Director of Just Housing, as they share their experiences of assisting 5 homeowners in Northeastern Minnesota over the past year in determining whether their houses were good candidates for air source heat pumps.

Using a grant from CERTs, MNIPL and Just Housing dove deep into examining the existing homes, and used the results to undergo a process of examination with the homeowners. Barriers to implementation were recognized and bridges around these obstacles were found, with recommendations for future deliberations on this issue. These learnings can help us understand which homes are good candidates and how to support their conversion, and it builds upon findings and resources explored in the Northland Heat Pump Helpers webinar series* from 2023.

To register, visit: https://mnipl.nationbuilder.com/heat_pump_helpers

* <https://www.mnipl.org/take-action/your-energy-transition/energy-efficiency/northland-heat-pump-webinars-resources/>

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Saturday, November 23, 2024 from 11am – 2pm CT Chapter Holiday Gathering and Potluck !



In lieu of a November Zoom meeting, we are gathering in-person at Bryce Hamilton's studio, located at 3112 West 28th Street in Minneapolis, which is between Cedar Lake and Bde Maka Ska.

If you plan to attend, please email info@climaterealitymsp.com ASAP, so that we can setup enough chairs and tables. (Family members are more than welcome; just let us know that too).

You are invited (but not required) to bring a climate friendly contribution to the potluck. So that we don't end up with 10 bowls of mashed potatoes, please sign up to bring one or more of the items listed at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FA5AD28A1FF2-52630459-holiday#/>

After clicking on the link, scroll down to the available slots. Then:

1. Pick a category (Main Dish, Beverage, et cetera) by selecting the "Sign Up" button for that category.
2. Click "Save & Continue"
3. Enter the specific foods in the comments field
4. Fill in your name and e-mail (you do not need a Signup account to sign up)
5. Select "Sign Up Now"
6. Confirmation appears - you're good to go



As the studio includes a full kitchen, Bryce will provide plates, glasses, silverware, water and more. Jason will also bring an update to a timeless classic, in the form of his new "meatless" BBQ meatballs. For a map to the studio, visit:

<https://www.climaterealitymsp.com/upcoming-events> .

(If you aren't able to notify us in advance, you are still welcome to attend, but you might want to bring a bag lunch, just in case we don't have ample food!)

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From the Minnesota Department of Commerce:

**Wednesday, December 11, 2024 from 11am-Noon CT
Cold-Climate Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) System
Demonstration and Market Research – a CARD webinar**

Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) is a market-ready heat pump application that is available today that will help Minnesota meet its 2050 emission goals. VRF systems have the potential to achieve seasonal heating efficiencies above 300% but have had historic challenges operating during the coldest hours of the year. Recent advancements have addressed this issue, as units that used to be limited to operating to -5°F can now operate down to -22°F. This new technology is referred to in this report as cold-climate VRF (ccVRF). VRF systems can also be paired with supplemental heating systems to perform in cold climates.

In this webinar, Slipstream will discuss their market analysis and field demonstration of VRF systems to demonstrate the energy savings potential from this technology in the cold climate of Minnesota. Researchers quantified the ability for these systems to maintain comfort throughout the year, and developed recommendations to overcome market adoption barriers in the state.

To register, visit:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/weblink/register/r367f79bb83e530ad97fb0dbd60e408c8>

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COMING IN DECEMBER:

**Central MN Chapter Zoom Meeting: Thursday, December 12 at 6:30pm CT
Featured Speaker: J. Drake Hamilton of Fresh Energy**

Topic: The 2024 U.N. Climate Conference – What Happened at COP29?



The 2024 U.N. Climate Conference, also known as COP, will be / was held in Baku, Azerbaijan from November 11 through November 22. J. Drake Hamilton, who trained with Al Gore in Nashville in 2006 and shared the stage with Gore in 2019, will be /was among participants of at least 195 nations from around the globe.

During our December chapter meeting, J. will provide an overview of what occurred in Baku, and its implications. To register for this Zoom meeting, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/CMC-12-12-2024>

*Shortly after registering, you will receive a confirmation email, containing the actual link (unique to you) for joining the meeting. **As always, please feel free to invite others to attend.***

About the speaker:



J. Drake Hamilton is Fresh Energy's senior director of science policy and an expert in climate and energy policy at the state and national levels.

Vision 2030: Fresh Energy's Strategic Framework charts the path to swiftly, equitably decarbonize five crucial sectors of our economy using proven strategies. Those sectors are Electricity, Buildings, Transportation, Agriculture, and Heavy Industry. We are doubling down on our role as a clean energy policy leader with a proven ability to shape and secure laws –and get the implementation details right. We believe that collaborative action must achieve a decarbonized economy that benefits all.

J. has represented Fresh Energy at eight global climate summits, including Paris, Glasgow, Dubai and now Baku.

J. earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in physical geography from Dartmouth College and the University of Minnesota, with an emphasis on climatology and water resources, and she was formerly assistant professor at The George Washington University.