



## TREEDC Newsletter July 2019



### TREEDC Participates in Sequatchie County High School Career Fair

Sequatchie County High School (SCHS) recently held its Career & Job Fair in Dunlap, Tennessee. TREEDC provided an informational booth to assist students with their interests in clean energy. Over 300 students attended this very worthy event. Special thanks to Tammie Akin and Pat Potter for organizing this event. TREEDC looks forward to working with SCHS and other schools in the future to promote career awareness in renewable energy.



*Warren Nevad, MTAS/TREEDC and Tanner Sherman, SCHS Student*



*SCHS Teacher Amy Land, SCHS Honors Student Avery Land and Nevad*

### Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Holds Energy Camp for K-12 Educators

TDEC's Office of Energy Programs (OEP) has a long history of supporting K-12 energy education through professional development and student learning opportunities. These offerings link the broad topic of energy to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) subjects and provide educators with the knowledge and resources necessary to teach energy concepts.

OEP recently conducted Energy Education Camps for K-12 Educators at both Cumberland Mountain State Park and Roan Mountain State Park. The Camps are comprised of three-day training sessions and provide energy-related lesson plans and resources designed for use in the K-12 classroom. These lessons promote energy literacy as it relates to STEM subjects and introduce educators to topics including, but not limited to, electricity generation, consumption, and measurement; renewable energy; and energy efficiency and conservation. Energy Education Camps are offered free of charge. For more information contact Alexa Voytek at [alexa.voytek@tn.gov](mailto:alexa.voytek@tn.gov)

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## Chattanooga State Holds Lunch and Learn Session with TREEDC

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS)/TREEDC director Warren Nevad and Stephanie Hollis, Chattanooga State Coordinator of Career Services recently organized a lunch and learn session with students. This event was a follow-up to the Chattanooga State Career Day held earlier in March. Students discussed ways on starting a sustainability club for the school. Nevad also gave a historical overview of the growth in renewable energy in Tennessee during the past 12 years.

Please contact TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land at [mayorland@gmail.com](mailto:mayorland@gmail.com) if your school is interested in hosting a career day and/or lunch and learn session with TREEDC.



*Nevad, Chattanooga State President Debbie Adams and Coordinator of Career Services Stephanie Hollis*

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## TREEDC Member Memphis Wins 2019 TML Green Leadership Award



*TML President Wallace Cartwright, Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland and Memphis Planning Director Richard Copeland*

During the 2019 TML Conference, the City of Memphis received the Annual Excellence in Green Leadership Award. During the past few years, the City of Memphis has been committed to sustainability and promoting energy efficiency in both the private and public sector. Incoming TML President/TREEDC Mayor Jill Holland of McKenzie recognized Memphis in becoming a national model in green related activities to link clean energy with economic development. These accomplishments were earned by the tireless work of the Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability. The City of Memphis has become the regional advocate and resource on topics such as energy efficiency, waste reduction, recycling and green building practices.

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Recently, the City of Memphis signed on to the Compact of Mayors – now the [Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy](#) – a formal commitment of city leaders across the world to tackle climate change by taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance resilience and adaptation in their communities. As part of the mitigation part of this commitment, the City has inventoried its community-wide greenhouse gas emissions, establish targets for reducing emissions, and completed a climate action plan (CAP) that includes strategies for achieving these emission reductions. Congratulations, Memphis!

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### TREEDC Member Livingston Wins 2019 TML Intergovernmental Relations Award

The City of Livingston received the Annual Excellence in Intergovernmental Relations at the annual TML Conference in June. Livingston has become a statewide leader in police training, energy management and infrastructure. Mayor Curtis Hayes has served on the TREEDC Board of Directors since 2017. Congratulations, Livingston!

*Cartwright, Police Chief, Chief Greg Etheredge, Livingston Mayor Curtis Hayes, Alderman Ken Dodson, Alderman Ken Dodson*



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### TREEDC Participates in WestStar Leadership Energy/ Technology Program

On April 12 -13, 2018, TREEDC members participated in the Leadership WestStar Program for Energy/Technology. This leadership session for West Tennessee governmental and business leaders was designed to give attendees an overall glimpse of how energy is produced and transported and the importance of alternative energies.

TREEDC Vice President Pat Riley organized a tour of the Gibson County Energy Complex which features compressed natural gas stations which are in part fueled by a solar array. The University of Tennessee MTAS Management Consultant/TREEDC Director Warren Nevad discussed recent energy developments in West Tennessee and gave a historical perspective of the growth in renewable energy in Tennessee since 2008.

TREEDC Member the University of Tennessee at Martin administers the leadership program.

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## TREEDC Member Chattanooga Cuts Energy Use by 30%

According to the Chattanooga Times Free Press, The City of Chattanooga has cut its energy use by 30% in the past five years, making the city a leader in the national Better Building initiative.

Through energy-efficient lighting, new and improved heating and cooling systems and improved operations at the Moccasin Bend Sewage plant, the city of Chattanooga has cut its use of energy by 30% since 2013 and city officials are looking for more savings in the future. In a recent report by the U.S. Department of Energy on its Better Buildings challenge, Chattanooga ranked the best among 25 challenge participants in achieving the greatest savings in energy use intensity.

The Better Building challenge runs through 2025 and the city is eager to make even more improvements even though Chattanooga has already exceeded the nationwide goal set by the U.S. Department of Energy to cut energy use by 20 percent in public buildings in a decade.

The city has made even bigger upgrades at its biggest energy user, the Moccasin Bend Sewage Treatment Plant where energy consumption has been cut by well over 30%. The city is planning for even more energy savings at its sewage plant with water treatment pond improvements and the installation of a [new 3-megawatt solar farm to be built by next spring](#) to generate about 8% of the power used in treating sewage at the city plant. Congratulations, Chattanooga!

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## TREEDC Metro-Nashville Plans for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency



On June 5, the Metropolitan Council (the legislative authority of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County) approved three bills aimed at stimulating Metro-Nashville's energy efficient and sustainability future:

- **Bill BL2019-1598:** By January 1, 2022, and every two years thereafter, the Metro-Nashville Department of General Services shall develop a greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan for its vehicle fleet. The plan shall include proposals on how to meet the above targets and goals for reducing emissions as well as associated cost estimates. By 2050, 100% of vehicles in the Metro-owned fleet shall be zero-emission vehicles.
- **Bill BL2019-1599:** By July 1, 2020, the Metro-Nashville Department of General Services shall develop a strategic energy management plan for reducing energy and water use across Metro-owned buildings. The plan will identify ways to retrofit existing facilities with a goal of achieving at least 20% reductions in both energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in 9% of Metro-owned buildings by square footage between 2021 and 2024; the plan will also identify a method for implementing a **LEED Zero** retrofit program in 12.5% of Metro-owned buildings by square footage between 2026 and 2032. Metro-Nashville must also adopt higher sustainability standards for new construction projects that "exceed five thousand gross square feet of occupied space or for which the total project cost exceeds two million dollars."
- **Bill BL2019-1600:** By 2041, all Metro-owned buildings must be powered by 100% carbon free, renewable energy sources. The renewable energy portfolio standard for Metro-Nashville is defined by year [here](#), from 2020 to 2041.

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## C2 Energy Capital Completes Largest Solar Project Installed on a Landfill in Tennessee

C2 Energy Capital, LLC has announced the completion of a 2.7 megawatt (MW) solar power generation plant located near the City of Somerville, Tenn., the largest solar project installed on a landfill in Tennessee. The power generated from the project will be sold to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) under a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement.

“Solar facilities installed on landfills are some of the most difficult to construct,” Candice Michalowicz, co-founder and managing member of C2 Energy Capital, said. “Our team’s effort and experience in completing this project turned previously unusable land to a clean, solar power system, a tax-paying property, and created jobs. We are very proud to have participated in the effort.”

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## Thrive Solar Energy Joins TREEDC’s International Exchange Program



*Steve Harmon, Harmon Construction, Ruhmy Mohta, Thrive Solar Philippines, Nevad and TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land*

Thrive Solar Energy Philippines (TSEP) has joined TREEDC as an International Member of the Philippines. TSEP worked with Vis Solis to develop TREEDC’s first solar project in the Philippines which was a roof top solar array for Puerto Princesa City Hall. TSEP has also been involved in various corporate social responsibility programs in the Philippines.

TREEDC and TSEP will follow-up in September 2019 with Philippine member cities and colleges to continue to provide educational outreach and technical assistance.

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## Register for the Tennessee Valley Solar Conference

The Tennessee Solar Energy Industries Association (TenneSEIA) will host the Tennessee Valley Solar Conference on **October 16** at the Embassy Suites in Franklin. The purpose of the conference is to bring together solar advocates and adopters to discuss strategies, market trends, and policies that impact the Tennessee Valley solar industry. Visit <https://tenneseiasolar.com/conference/> to learn more.



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## Mark Your Calendar: TREEDC 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



### 2019 TREEDC State and National Renewable Energy 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Hosted by Tennessee Tech University  
December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

This conference will feature mayoral panels featuring best practices in economic development, energy efficiency and innovation in renewable energy. Attendees will hear from leaders with State and Federal Government about the future of renewable energy. Conference will also include special awards.

#### ***Registration Options***

- Individual Registration | \$50
- Day of conference | \$75
- Booth Registration | \$200
- Reception and meals sponsor | \$1000

Contact: [mayorland@gmail.com](mailto:mayorland@gmail.com) for more information