

The Power of Partnerships

Lansing Board of Water & Light

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Who We Are

- Founded in 1885 when Lansing citizens voted to form a Water Board
- Entered into the Electric business in 1892 with another public vote
- Steam added in 1919 and Chilled Water in 2001
- Largest municipal electric utility in Michigan and among 30 largest in U.S.



Public Ownership

- Owned by citizens of Lansing
- Authority comes from Lansing City Charter
 - Governed by an administrative board of the city with executive and policy making authority for running the utility
 - Eight (8) Commissioners appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council

Why Public Ownership is Important

- Lower rates
- Responsive to customers as they are our owners
- No conflict between customers and stockholders
- Earnings are reinvested in the utility and the community
- Greater connection to community

Partnerships

Partnerships = Relationships

This presentation will focus on the
power of partnerships/relationships
in the community

Chili Cook Off

- BWL partners with City of Lansing, Pace & Partners, Comcast, local TV and radio stations.
- In 2005 raised \$25,000 to \$30,000
- Proceeds are given to:
 - Adopt-A-River
 - Hope Scholarship Fund

Adopt-A-River

- BWL partners with Ingham County Conservation District
- Volunteer program involving the community to clean up the Grand River in downtown Lansing

EnergyWise Program

- Program Objectives:
 - 1) Educate and assist customers in identifying beneficial water and energy efficiency choices.
 - 2) Pursue partnerships and collaboratives with local non-profit organizations
 - 3) Act as a referral agency for existing local energy programs and services

EnergyWise Program Parameters

1) Education

- Brochure
- Website

2) Partnerships

- EnergyStar
- Local non-profit organizations



EnergyStar Partnership

ENERGYSTAR[®] is the government backed symbol for energy efficiency...

....It identifies energy-efficient products in over 30 categories, as well as homes, commercial buildings and schools

- BWL became an EnergyStar Partner in 2004
- BWL is one of two municipal utilities who are EnergyStar Partners in Michigan



Benefits of EnergyStar Partnership

- Allows the BWL to align itself with a national reputable entity known for its commitment to energy efficiency and the environment.
- Symbol identifies energy efficient products
- Provides marketing and technical resources



Partnerships with Local Non-Profit Organizations

- Green Building Grant from State of Michigan
 - Partner is Urban Options
 - Objective is to offer energy efficiency workshops to Lansing and East Lansing Neighborhood Associations
 - Included distribution of free EnergyStar rated compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL's)

Green Building Grant Update

- As of September 30th we have held 13 EnergyWise Workshops

	GOAL	Actual as of 9/30/05
Number of Attendees	250-500	658
Number of CFL's Distributed	500	510

Benefits of Community Partnerships

- Sharing of resources
- Avoids duplication of services
- Increases participation
- Win-Win for our customers, the community and the BWL

End of Presentation

Thank You

