

The Otsego County Chamber

Strengthening Our Economy  Shaping Our Future

Media Release

The Otsego County Chamber **TO HOST ENERGY REDUCTION AND SAVINGS MEETING**

For More Information Contact:

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(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE) *The Otsego County Chamber* will host a meeting regarding energy reduction and savings on Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at 8:00 am at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta. Guest speakers will include Heather Halstead of EnerPath, along with Tad Palmer and Ed Personius of NYSEG. A light breakfast will be provided.

“Energy costs are a major concern for our members,” stated Rob Robinson, President & CEO of *The Otsego County Chamber*. “We hope that the businesses will take an hour and join us to see where and how they might be able to reduce and save on their energy costs. It is a great opportunity to learn.”

Halstead will address the Small Business Energy Efficiency Program. Small businesses with a demand of less than 100 kilowatts of electricity may be eligible for the program. The program is designed to offer low-cost upgrades for more energy efficient lighting. Qualifying businesses will receive a free energy assessment and lighting upgrade recommendations. NYSEG will absorb 70 percent of the cost of recommended upgrades and is funded through the System Benefit Charges accessed by NYS.

As for the benefits of the program, lower energy bills and consumption levels are just a couple. “Lighting is one of the simplest ways to quickly save energy and money,” said Halstead. Other benefits to businesses include improved quality, appearance, and longevity of lighting equipment. The greatest benefit of all may be beyond the savings. Businesses have the opportunity to show their customers that they have made environmentally conscious energy improvements.

Personius and Palmer will discuss NYSEG’s Commercial and Industrial Rebate Program. The program, which began in July of this year, is available to non-residential, commercial, or industrial customers within the NYSEG or RG&E service area. Eligible customers must have System Benefits Charge (SBC) included on their utility bill and rebates only apply to purchases of new equipment. The program is designed to meet both prescriptive and custom energy efficiency needs of applicants.

Prescriptive energy efficiency options will be available for needs that match a broad-range of pre-determined measures. Among the prescriptive options discussed include rebates on purchases of variable frequency drives, motors operating on 10 to 200 horsepower, unitary HVACs, HVAC chillers, and natural gas furnaces, boilers, and controls. Custom energy efficiency options will be available for projects requiring site-specific engineering and cost analysis. Projects include, but are not limited to, energy management systems, compressed air equipment, infrared radiant heaters, steam traps, and heat recovery systems.

This event is free and open to the public. To register or for more information contact Pam at (607) 432-4500 ext. 201 or pam@otsegocountychamber.com.

The Otsego County Chamber's mission is to provide legislative action and economic development assistance for existing and new businesses. The Chamber offers programs and services that enhance a member's ability to reduce their cost of doing business and to create employment opportunities while promoting Otsego County as an ideal place to live and work. For further information on becoming an active member of *The Otsego County Chamber* – please contact Pam Ferguson (toll free) at 1-877-5-OTSEGO or e-mail pam@otsegocountychamber.com.