



April 2011

NTRPDC update



SERVING BRADFORD, SULLIVAN, SUSQUEHANNA, TIOGA, AND WYOMING COUNTIES

Mini-Grants Available for Lighting Upgrades



Energy costs can likely make up a large majority of your organization's monthly expenditures and with the continuing rise in energy costs it is important that you are doing all you can to reduce energy usage. Some of the easiest ways to save on energy costs are by undergoing simple lighting upgrades in your facilities which can reduce electricity usage by 30 to 40 percent.

NTRPDC is offering

lighting retrofit mini-grants for lighting equipment to municipalities, schools, and non-profits. Grants will be awarded on a first come first serve basis so please do not delay. Maximum, reimbursable assistance is \$2,000. Applicants must match 50% of the total project cost. For complete guidelines and application visit www.northerntier.org and look under the "new updates" section.

Also, major utility companies are offering incentive rebates for lighting upgrades as part of their Act 129 Electric Utility Deregulation Plans, which can provide up to 40% reimbursement for lighting equipment. They are only available for a limited amount of time, and should be taken advantage of as soon as possible.

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In July of 2010, the manufacturing of all T-12 style lighting fixtures was ended under a mandate from the U.S. Department of Energy. Replacement bulbs are currently available, but will not be for much longer, so it is in your organization's best interest to upgrade to new, more efficient lighting systems while these incentives and rebates are available. This will drastically shorten payback periods and provide the best opportunity to attain savings dollars almost instantly. Information about Penelec's Act 129 Rebate programs can be found at: www.energysavepa.com; be sure to view the requirements for the lighting rebates, as well as all the other programs they are currently offering.

County Outreach Meetings

abrams@northerntier.org

- Sullivan – May 6

9:00 a.m., Sullivan County Courthouse, Laporte

- Bradford – May 13

9:00 a.m., NTRPDC Conference Room, Towanda

- Susquehanna– June 3

9:00 a.m., County Office Building, Montrose

- Tioga – June 17

9:00 a.m., TCDC Conference Room, Wellsboro

- Wyoming – June 24

9:00 a.m., Wyoming County Courthouse, Tunkhannock

Upcoming Meetings

Local Loan Review Committee

Kulick@northerntier.org

NTRPDC Conference Room

10:30 a.m.

- May 13
- June 10

RTAC

baker@northerntier.org

NTRPDC Conference Room

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

- May 5
- June 13

Stronger Economies Together Team

koski@northerntier.org

Riverstone Inn, Wysox

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- May 25

Sullivan County Job Fair

hattlind@sulcosd.k12.pa.us

Sullivan County High School

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- May 14

Marcellus Shale B2B Expo

www.ntmarcellusexpo.com

Alparon Park, Troy

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- June 25



This funding created or retained 94 jobs and helped leverage private investment.

Recent Loan Closings

Three loans totaling \$400,000 were closed in February and March.

BX3 Inc. in Susquehanna County received a \$100,000 Intermediary Relending loan for business expansion.

Deer Park Lumber, Inc. in Wyoming County received

an ARC loan of \$100,000 for equipment upgrades.

The Inn at Montrose in Susquehanna County received a \$200,000 First Industries Fund loan for busi-

ness acquisition and renovation.

This financing helped to leverage \$866,000 in private investment and helped to create or retain 94 jobs.

Guide to Local Foods Now Available

Buy Fresh, Buy Local!



The latest Guide to Local Foods includes farmers, growers, wineries, dairy producers, maple and honey producers, retail stores, restaurants, and bakeries. It is a great place to locate farmers and local foods

and to promote your farm or local food business. You can download a copy now on our Resources/PDF page (<http://www.northerntierbfbf.com/Resources/>) or look for a print copy at the North Country Artisan Center and Store in Towanda, Visitors Bureaus, and local food outlets across the region.

The Northern Tier Buy Fresh Buy Local chapter is coordinated by the Northern

Tier Cultural Alliance (NTCA), a folk arts support center with a history of activity designed to celebrate and document the cultural significance of agriculture in the region ntculturalalliance.org. Northern Tier Buy Fresh Buy Local is a membership chapter designed to promote local food in a region of Pennsylvania that includes the Northern Tier region.

Northern Tier Gas Summit for Municipal Officials

May 18, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Wysox Volunteer Fire Hall



A panel discusses natural gas issues at the 2009 summit

The development of the Marcellus Shale is having a powerful impact on the future of our region. NTRPDC held its first Gas Summit for Municipal Officials in October 2009 with over 200 attendees. Please plan on joining us to continue the discussion on May 18.

Representatives from the

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Tioga County Planning Commission, and a municipal water authority representative will discuss the importance of having a plan for municipal water source protection. Representatives from Penn State Cooperative Extension, the

Pennsylvania Utilities Commission, and an environmental law representative will discuss pipeline development safety issues.

Cost is \$15 per person. To register, please contact Nancy Kulick at Kulick@northerntier.org or at 570-265-1531.

Partners in Lending Workshops Scheduled

Reducing risk while expanding opportunities

Banks and service providers are looking for opportunities to serve small businesses, while mitigating credit risks in this uncertain economic climate. This workshop will provide you with updated information from funding sources and an introduction to new partners.

Panel to include:

- Steel Valley Authority – Strategic Early Warning Network (SEWN)
- This organization provides a wide variety of professional and consulting services at no charge, in an effort to revitalize Pennsylvania’s economic base and retain jobs. Learn how SEWN can help your small businesses with financial restructuring, buyouts, succession planning, transition of ownership, labor management relations, high performance workplaces, operations and cost management.
- Small Business Administration
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission

For more information please contact Paulette Potter potter@northerntier.org or call 570-265-1510 .

- **Tioga County,** Penn College of Technology, Wellsboro – Tuesday, May 10th
- **Bradford County,** Towanda Country Club, Wysox – Wednesday, May 11th
- **Wyoming County,** Shadowbrook Inn, Tunkhannock - Thursday, May 12th

Registration is at 8:45 a.m., workshops from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Unemployment Figures Released

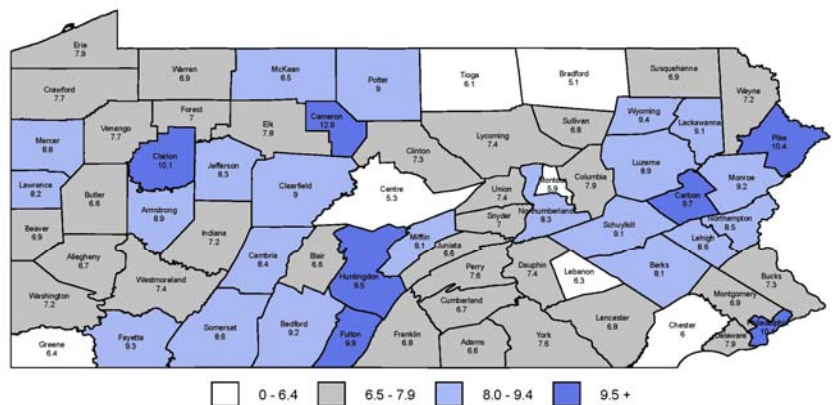
Northern Tier unemployment rate continues to improve.

Most counties in the Northern Tier Region continue to have lower unemployment rates than Pennsylvania’s statewide unemployment rate.

Center for Workforce Information & Analysis
April 5, 2011

February County Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted

COUNTY	FEBRUARY 2010	FEBRUARY 2011
Bradford	7.2%	5.1%
Sullivan	7.6%	6.8%
Susquehanna	9.7%	6.9%
Tioga	8.3%	6.1%
Wyoming	7.8%	9.4%
Pennsylvania	8.9%	8.0%



Expo Showcases Natural Gas Careers

NTRPDC Co-sponsored Susquehanna County event.



Nancy Kulick spoke with attendees at the expo

The Susquehanna County Workforce Development Expo, held April 2 at the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center, gave participants the opportunity to learn more about potential careers in the natural gas industry. NTRPDC was a co-sponsor and exhibitor at the event, which included exhibitors from gas drilling companies, educational providers, and other support industries. Speakers were featured throughout the day, including keynote speaker Kathryn Klaber, Executive Director of the Marcellus Shale Coalition.



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