



News Release

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Contact: Guienen Behrle
(410) 821-3022 ext. 107
gbehrle@fuelfundmaryland.org

Fuel Fund of Maryland Supports Earth Day 2009 Green Generation Campaign™ Mission

Baltimore, Maryland (April 23, 2009) – In observation of Earth Day, Watt Watchers of Maryland™ educator Diane Sweeney will speak with Digital Harbor High School students Thursday, April 23rd about what they can do as individuals to save energy at home.

Earth Day 2009, on Wednesday, April 22, represents the launch of the Green Generation Campaign™ by the Earth Day Network. Part of the campaign's mission is "an individual's commitment to responsible, sustainable consumption," which is supported by the Fuel Fund's own mission. Consumers cannot control the prices of natural resources for home energy needs, but can control their use of energy. Thus, the necessity of conserving energy assumes critical importance, not only to save money, but to help save the environment and to conserve natural resources.

The Fuel Fund of Maryland's mission is to supplement the resources of those experiencing hardship with home energy bills. In 2008, that mission expanded to include energy conservation education, taught by Fuel Fund volunteers in its Watt Watchers of Maryland™ program sponsored by Citi.

Watt Watchers of Maryland™ curriculum includes lessons on the utility bill itself, learning why one's bill can differ greatly from one's neighbors', involving family members in efficiency efforts, and managing finances by setting goals and creating a budget. Many tips learned in classes have little or no cost yet contribute greatly to savings over time, monetarily and in reducing carbon footprint.

The Green Generation Campaign™ states as one of its core principles the desire for "a carbon-free future based on renewable energy that will end our common dependency on fossil fuels, including coal." Fuel Fund initiatives such as Watt Watchers of Maryland™ support these goals, and urge those in the community to participate with energy conservation efforts in their homes, businesses, schools and other organizations.

Visit www.earthday.net/earthday2009 for details about Earth Day 2009, as well as www.fuelfundmaryland.org for energy saving tips and resources! To volunteer as a Watt Watchers of Maryland™ educator, contact Director of Volunteer Services Danielle Phelps, at dphelps@fuelfundmaryland.org, or 410-821-3022 x106.

As a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Fuel Fund of Maryland, Inc. provides year-round home energy assistance to families in Central Maryland and has raised more than \$20 million to help nearly 100,000 Maryland families since 1981. The Fuel Fund also garners recognition year after year by receiving the Seal of Excellence from the Maryland Association of Nonprofits, which identifies nonprofit organizations that go above and beyond minimum legal requirements and hold the highest standards of ethics and accountability under the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations' Standards for Excellence code. A resource in energy conservation education, the Fuel Fund sponsors the Watt Watchers of Maryland™. For more information, visit www.fuelfundmaryland.org.

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