

# Community Scale BioEnergy Short Course



Penn State Bioenergy Short Course Series 2009

27 July, 2009

9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center  
State College, PA

Community scale energy projects hold great promise for bioenergy and rural development in America, whether it be a biomass heating plant, a bioenergy crops cooperative, a regional waste digester, or any of the other prospective opportunities available today. However, these projects are often difficult to develop and manage due to the challenging human dimensions of these projects. More often than not, the success or failure of these project hinges on the manner in which the community understands and responds to the opportunity.

Join us for an information-rich full-day short course in which experts provide you with the skills to galvanize and transform your community towards a successful bioenergy project. Networking time will be included to allow you to discuss your ideas and interests. Several examples of community bioenergy projects, both locally and abroad, will also be discussed



## Topics include:

- Technical options for community bioenergy
- Identifying suitable communities
- Building the community team
- Benefits and pitfalls of community energy systems
- Examples of community bioenergy projects at home and abroad
- Community models for managing change and sustainability
- Positioning a community for energy project funding
- Sources of funding availability

## Speakers:

Kathy Brasier – Kathy is a professor of Rural Sociology at Penn State specializing in collective action and public participation.

Dorn Cox – Dorn is a bioenergy specialist and farmer from Durham, NH, who has worked with several community bioenergy projects.

F Lee Patterson – Lee is a community projects specialist and president of the PA-Alliance for Cooperative Innovation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating public private partnerships for rural and community development.

Tim Pierson – Tim is a forester and energy specialist in McKean County, Pennsylvania, and is intimately involved in the Smethport Woody Biomass project.

Chuck Ray – Chuck is a professor of Forest Resources at Penn State, and specializes in wood products and wood energy.

Paul Roth – Paul is a bioenergy and forestry expert with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Bill Shuffstall – Bill is a community development specialist at Penn State, with experience in several bioenergy and community development projects.

## Registration Information:

Registration information, including additional program information, driving directions and lodging, is available online at:

<http://www.bioenergy.psu.edu/shortcourses.asp>

Space is Limited – Register early to assure your spot.

Early Registration	\$ 95
Late Registration (after 31 June)	\$125

Registration includes event admission, informational packet, buffet lunch, coffee, tea and snacks. Limited funding is available for persons unable to attend due to cost constraints.

If you have questions, please contact Daniel Ciolkosz at [dec109@psu.edu](mailto:dec109@psu.edu) or 814-863-3484.



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Bioenergy  
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Series

Penn State Biomass Energy Center; Tom L. Richard, Director; 225 Agricultural Engineering Building; Pennsylvania State University; University Park, PA 16802-1909. The Biomass Energy Center is sponsored by the Environment and Natural Resources Institute, Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment, and Penn State Cooperative Extension. Penn State is an Equal Opportunity University.