

# Madison Gas and Electric Company Public Library Energy Information Partnership

## **Circulating Resources**

MGE helps public libraries expand their consumer energy/environmental information resources by identifying and/or providing new books, videos, CDs and self-help energy tools. Tools include portable energy meters (PEMs) which patrons can check out and plug into appliances at home or work to determine energy use and help make informed energy decisions.

## **Energy/Environmental Displays**

MGE loans children's and adult energy/environmental displays to public libraries to use as stand-alone exhibits or in conjunction with special programs—for instance, Earth Day/Month (April) and Energy Awareness Month (October). These include a wind energy display and a coal pile/lighting/Betsy Badger environmental display. MGE also provides materials support for exhibits—for instance, energy-efficient lighting products and literature.

## **Children's Programs**

MGE offers energy expertise and programming support to teach children to understand and use energy wisely and safely. MGE staff provide educational electric safety and energy conservation demonstrations in a lively, entertaining style. MGE also funds a popular energy conservation puppet show, "Wizard of Watt," performed by Puppet Power and a crowd-pleasing energy/environmental stage show, MaGicEnergy. Public libraries often link up with schools to cosponsor such events.

## **Adult Programs**

MGE offers energy expertise and programming to help adults save energy and make their homes more comfortable. Home energy presentations staffed by MGE's energy experts feature practical up-to-date information and the opportunity to ask energy questions. MGE also helps libraries offer special events—for instance, a panel on renewable energy or bringing an author of an environmental book to town.

## **Media/Promotional Assistance**

MGE helps libraries publicize energy/ environmental resources and events. MGE's support ranges from developing stand-up signs and literature about the availability of portable energy meters, to helping libraries with news releases to the local media about upcoming energy/environmental events.

## **Equipment Donations**

From time to time, MGE donates equipment to help libraries deliver their informational resources and services—for instance, literature kiosks in which energy-related materials can be displayed.

## **Community Partnerships**

Through this partnership with local public libraries, MGE involves and fosters collaborations with schools, neighborhood associations, municipalities, local businesses and service groups.