

In this Issue:

- Energy-smart landscaping
- Electric vehicle fast charger hub coming to Madison
- Save time and energy
- Día de Fútbol returns

MGE breaks ground on local solar project

 Cleaner Energy

Fall 2021

mge

In late July, Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) hosted a groundbreaking for an 8-megawatt (MW) solar array in southeast Madison. The project, known as the Hermsdorf Solar Fields, will provide locally generated solar energy to the City of Madison and the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD).

“This project will bring locally generated, cost-effective, carbon-free energy to our electric grid,” said Jeff Keebler, MGE Chairman, President and CEO. “Partnering with the City of Madison and the Madison Metropolitan School District on this project serves as a great example of what can be accomplished when we work together around shared goals. MGE is working every day toward net-zero carbon electricity by 2050 for all of our customers, and if we can go further faster by working together with our customers, we will.”

The City will take 5 MW of the output and MMSD will take 3 MW of the output from the 28,000-panel array. According to the City and school district, the electricity generated by the array is expected to increase renewable energy use in City operations by nearly 20% and by about 16% for MMSD. The solar array is expected to start generating electricity by the end of the year.



The Hermsdorf Solar Fields will help power the City of Madison and the Madison Metropolitan School District.

MGE’s Renewable Energy Rider

The Hermsdorf project is being built under MGE’s innovative Renewable Energy Rider (RER) for large customers. The program enables MGE to partner with a large energy user to tailor a renewable energy solution to meet that customer’s energy needs. It helps grow locally generated clean energy.

MGE’s net-zero carbon electricity goal

In May 2019, MGE announced its goal of net-zero carbon electricity by 2050, making it one of the first utilities in the nation to commit to net-zero carbon by mid-century. To achieve deep decarbonization, MGE is growing its use of renewable energy, engaging customers around energy efficiency and working to electrify transportation. Learn more about how we’re partnering with our customers to advance our shared energy goals by visiting mge2050.com.

Energy-smart landscaping

 Our Energy Use

Trees and shrubs can help you save energy and keep your home more comfortable. Here’s a quick guide to energy-smart planting this fall!

- Planting evergreens on the north and west sides of your home can provide protection from winter winds and help to reduce home heating needs.
- In winter, deciduous, or leafy, trees lose their leaves, allowing sunlight from the west and south sides to warm your home.

- If you are planting near your house, please remember to leave room around electric and gas meters for MGE crews to perform maintenance work.
- Be sure to contact Diggers Hotline by calling 811 at least three days before digging begins.

Visit mge.com/planting for more information on planting trees.

Construction of a new electric vehicle (EV) fast charging hub in the heart of Madison's Capitol East District is underway.

"Our new fast charging hub will provide convenient EV charging—powered by renewable energy—for nearby apartment and condo dwellers and single-family households, commuters, taxi and ridesharing services as well as EV fleet vehicles that travel a gateway to our capital city," said Debbie Branson, MGE Manager of Electrification. "Electrification is a key strategy for reducing carbon emissions and achieving net-zero carbon electricity by mid-century. Quick and easy EV charging will help to enable the growth of cleaner, more sustainable transportation options."



Located at the intersection of East Washington Avenue and South Livingston Street, the hub is expected to begin serving EV drivers later this year.

About the hub

The hub will feature eight fast charger stalls with some of the most powerful chargers in the Midwest. And, through a partnership with Tesla, the hub also will feature eight Superchargers.

Public charging discount available

EV drivers who sign up at mge.com/evstudy are eligible to receive 50% off the cost of charging at MGE's 45 wind-powered public charging stations, including MGE's five fast charging stations across the area and the chargers at the upcoming charging hub.

Explore MGE's EV resources

There's a lot to love about EVs. Visit mge.com/LovEV to learn about available models, charging opportunities, costs, benefits and more. MGE's Explore My EV tool, available at mge.com/ExploreMyEV, helps customers who are considering buying an EV to calculate the total cost of ownership. And, for news and features about EVs, visit mge2050.com/EVRider.

Save time and energy

Innovation

Smart devices offer simple energy-saving solutions for your household.

Smart plugs

Investing in smart plugs, or smart outlets, can help you remotely control almost anything from electronics to lamps with a smartphone.

Smart thermostats

These internet-connected thermostats automatically adjust your household's heating and cooling systems, lowering the temperature when you're away in the winter or raising it in the summer.

Save with FOCUS ON ENERGY®

Our energy efficiency partner, Focus on Energy, offers an incentive on smart thermostats for eligible MGE customers. Visit focusonenergy.com/smart to learn more.

Día de Fútbol returns

Working Together

Join us this fall at Breese Stevens Field in downtown Madison for the fifth MGE Día de Fútbol.

The free, family-friendly event is a celebration of sport and community energy! In partnership with Forward Madison FC and La Movida Radio, Día de Fútbol will offer youth soccer clinics and scrimmages, appearances from Forward Madison players, food vendors, music and information from MGE energy experts.

Learn about safety, energy efficiency, EVs and more. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Breese Stevens Field. Visit mge2050.com for more information.



Be sure to connect with MGE on social media



Puede leer estos artículos en español en mge2050.com.