

File 1: Program Description

US Department of Energy Mini Virtual Treasure Hunt Event 2021

Summary: The US Department of Energy (DOE) describes the Treasure Hunt as “One of the best tools at an energy manager's disposal”. It invites the organization’s employees to take part in energy audits to find energy saving improvements. The Treasure Hunt is typically a 3 day event that involves training, audits, and a program summary. However due to COVID, this audit will not be the typical DOE Treasure Hunt. It is a mini treasure hunt that will be held virtually. With a dedicated team of faculty and staff, we will present short online training modules for students, faculty, and staff that will highlight the College’s Energy Conservation Program, present energy saving tips for both the workplace and home, and be a fun event that can be used as both a learning and teambuilding experience. During typical past DOE Treasure Hunt events, organizations have seen energy savings of up to 15%.

Goals: Following are the goals of the Treasure Hunt Event:

- To highlight and explain the College’s Energy Conservation Program to the College community.
- To create a sense of ownership and teamwork among the College community by allowing the College community the opportunity to be involved in identifying and suggesting energy saving tips and building a culture of continuous improvement.
- To advance our partnerships with the utilities and continue to work on reducing our energy use.
- To highlight the College’s commitment to being a positive leader in reducing our carbon footprint. According to the Princeton Review’s 2020 *College Hopes and Worries Survey*, “Sixty-six percent of the respondents (college-bound teens and parents) said that having information about a college's commitment to the environment would affect their (or their child's) decision to apply to or attend a school.”
- And last but definitely not least through the training exercises, help to reduce our energy use not only on campus but in our community.

Committee Members: Brian August, Steven Hartmann, Pamela Lynch, Carol Malley, Scott Mandia, Melanie Morris, Nicholas Palumbo, Richa Prakash, Frank Vino, Christopher Williams, Charles Wittreich

Audience: College community including students, faculty and staff