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Cambridge Energy Alliance Brings Energy Efficiency Door to Door this Summer

Sunday- Community members traveled door to door in the Riverside neighborhood of Cambridge distributing free energy efficient compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs and efficiency resources to hundreds of homes. This community event, organized by the Cambridge Energy Alliance (CEA) and the Home Energy Efficiency Team (HEET), was held in order to help residents lower their home energy consumption and cut carbon emissions in Cambridge. Jason Taylor, a HEET Team leader, enthusiastically remarked, "Changing light bulbs will put money in your pocket. And it helps the Earth." The Riverside light bulb exchange is part of a broader effort by HEET to help Cambridge residents lower their carbon footprint by implementing efficiency measures in homes with support from volunteers.

Twenty-four volunteers met traveled on foot door-to-door in the Riverside neighborhood, exchanging CFL bulbs for incandescent bulbs. The CFL bulbs were generously donated by TCP, Inc., and Metro Pedal Power provided the carbon-free delivery for the CFLs to the Cambridge Community Center—making it a carbon free event. Four hundred and forty-two CFL bulbs were exchanged today, saving 132,000 pounds of CO₂ emissions from being emitted per year. If a resident were to exchange 20 light bulbs in their home it would save approximately \$1200 dollars over the life span of the bulbs. The exchange will help Riverside residents decrease their energy consumption, combat climate change, and also save money on their energy bills. After the canvass, a community party was held at the Cambridge Community Center to celebrate the volunteers' outreach efforts. Lilah Glick, Community Outreach Manager for the Cambridge Energy Alliance considers the event to be a great success and shared, "this demonstrates how a small group of committed individuals can make a real difference in their community and lead the way for a more sustainable, healthy future". The Riverside light bulb exchange is a continuation of CEA's summer canvass program, connecting Cambridge residents to efficiency programs and services to help them save money and save the planet. Ms. Glick views changing out light bulbs as a great first step toward reducing energy use and recommends Cambridge residents get connected to CEA's energy audit programs and services to help identify deeper savings opportunities that create more sustainable, healthier, and comfortable homes."

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About CEA: The Cambridge Energy Alliance is a city-sponsored organization working with homeowners, businesses, and institutions across the city to achieve unprecedented levels of energy savings and to expand clean energy sources. This first-in-the nation initiative is the result of the City of Cambridge's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent below 1990. Buildings are responsible for eighty percent of the carbon emissions in Cambridge.

For more information on the Cambridge Energy Alliance, please visit CEA's newly updated website at: <http://CambridgeEnergyAlliance.org>

About HEET: HEET formed with the goal of bringing neighbors together to weatherize homes in Cambridge. Using the barn raising model, HEET aims to reduce the carbon footprint of specific buildings, teach participants skills they can use to make their own homes more energy efficient, and build a sense of community. Work is done on a volunteer basis.

To learn more about HEET visit their website at: <http://www.heetma.com/>

About TCP: TCP, Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio is a global leader in energy efficient lighting innovations. TCP is dedicated to creating high-quality products that are brighter, longer lasting, and better for the environment. The company accounts for a majority of the CFLs sold in the United States and an annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of more than 118 million pounds.