

2008 ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING & ENERGY REPORT

Our educational focus deals with the environment in which we live, our homes and issues concerning our use of energy. It is great to see we are using the information provided to us to improve our lives, our homes and our communities. With the three year there, Your Home: Past, Present and Future, the lessons and activities conducted throughout the state and the number of homemakers receiving this information in 2008 is as follows:

- A Home For A Lifetime of Living - 81 clubs; 993 members
- Family Keepsakes -150 clubs; 2,215 members
- New Products for Kitchen and Bath - 24 clubs; 392 members
- Controlling Clutter - 155 Clubs; 1,245 members
- Healthy Homes (Mold) - 144 clubs; 3,000 members
- Other:
 - Living Green - 985 members Discover the Past - 1,378 members
 - Genealogy on Line - 94 members Preserving Heirlooms - 290 members
 - Lighting the World - 249 members

Homemakers continue to be involved in the communities by conducting special projects and activities that pertain to our environment. Some of these include:

- Observance of Arbor Day
- Adopt A Highway or Beautification Projects
- Planting Trees & Flowers
- Composting & Recycling
- Big Gardens & Small Spaces Program

With our country facing growing energy concerns, it is up to each of us to do what we can to conserve, preserve and save. Some club members have reported improvements they have made.

- Replacing light bulbs with CFL's
- Install high efficiency furnaces & new air conditioning systems
- Install new storm windows
- Basement & home insulation
- Purchased Energy Star Appliances

Homemakers are important to our communities. This is evident with some of the activities members have done this past year. These include:

- a scavenger hunt of Historical Trail of Quilts on barns
- construct and paint a quilt block square for courthouse lawn
- decorate for the holidays
- decorate a State Park Lodge for Christmas
- holiday decorating with natural materials program
- held a church district rally on community and county recycling
- county green day held
- took tours to flower shows, herb gardens, Yatesville Lake, American Electric Power Company, lower town Paducah and the home of Carol Fallert at Briarpatch

Special programs were presented on Children's Environmental Health; Greening up the World One Light at a Time - CFL's; saving water, saving gas, saving energy; held a "green day" idea exchange with workshops on environmental issued and global warming; energy efficient homes; conserving through the three R's and disaster awareness, Bed, Bath & Bucks program; and 20 ways your home can save the planet.

Submitted by: Helen Eden, Educational Chairman