



2008 Community Outreach Report



BGE has been an integral part of central Maryland Communities since the 1800's.

Whether serving on boards, facilitating workshops, arranging speakers to discuss energy topics, or assisting worthwhile energy-related causes philanthropically, you can count on BGE.



BGE
We're on it.™

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Energy Assistance & Outreach to Our Customers

BGE and its customers provided approximately \$4 million in energy assistance contributions to the community in 2008.

Examples include:

- Provided energy bill credits in partnership with the **Fuel Fund of Maryland** to supplement the resources of those experiencing hardship with energy needs.
- Made available crisis assistance grants through the **BGE Community Assistance Fund** to keep customers connected and support energy assistance agencies for infrastructure improvements.
- Presented energy efficiency initiatives through **Conservation Home Improvement Program (CHIP)** for our limited income customers.
- Offered workforce development in partnership with **Community Assistance Network (CAN)**.
- Developed communities by building and renovating houses and creating homeownership opportunities with **Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity**.
- Educated limited income customers on how to make their homes more energy efficient for little or no cost through support to **Green Building Institute's Go Green, Save**.



BGE's Educational Services is a strong community partner in the academic arena.

A few highlights from 2008 include:

- Provided **\$16,000** for a teacher summer enrichment program.
- Over **320** schools took advantage of educational materials and BGE distributed over **65,000** online literature requests for schools.

- Offered three classroom programs: **Safety Around Gas and Electricity, From Power Plant to You, and Utility Careers**.
- For over 20 years, BGE has partnered with **Bentalou Elementary School**. In 2008, twenty-three BGE employees volunteered as mentors at Bentalou to help students prepare for state-wide exams.

Employee Volunteerism

Employees engage in countless ways to support local communities and non-profit organizations to make a social impact.

Here are just a few:

- BGE employees are actively engaged and serving on over **60** community boards such as **Goodwill Industries, Community Action Council, Franciscan Center** and **Junior Achievement**.
- Through the **United Way** campaign, BGE employees raised approximately **\$630,000**.
- Supported the **Marine's Toys for Tots Foundation** with over **1,000** toys.
- Through onsite blood drives, **2,267** pints of blood were collected for the **American Red Cross**.
- More than **80** employee volunteers supported the **Habitat for Humanity** renovating **7** homes.

Promoting Environmental Stewardship

BGE believes proper care of the environment is essential to the well being of our community and neighbors. BGE is committed to protecting the environment and responsibly managing natural resources.

- Earned the **Wildlife Habitat Council's (WHC) Wildlife at WorkSM** certification in recognition of BGE's successful implementation of



- a comprehensive wildlife habitat management program at its Spring Gardens natural gas operations facility in Baltimore City.
- Phasing in hybrid passenger vehicles and bucket trucks, and supplementing the diesel fleet of 600 vehicles on biodiesel B20 (20% soybean oil).
- In celebration of **Earth Day** and **Arbor Day**, over 150 BGE employees volunteers spent 500 hours planting over 100 trees and providing education, leadership and support for various community greening projects.

Energy Education & Conservation

Through energy education outreach activities, BGE reached 31,000 customers.

Here are a few examples:

- BGE hosted nearly **300** community events and workshops to share information on how customers can save money and energy.
- **BGE's SmartEnergy Savers Program** is a family of smart choices that will help customers conserve energy, save money and help the environment.
- Over **1.6 million** CFLs sold with BGE mark-down and almost **15,000** appliance applications processed through **BGE's SmartEnergy Savers Program** representing an estimated lifecycle dollar savings of **\$147 million** for customers.
- Enrolled more than **65,000** customers in **BGE's PeakRewards program**. Participating customers receive rebates during summer months ranging from \$50 to \$100 per season.



To learn about BGE's community outreach, SmartEnergy Savers Program and more, visit bge.com.