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ISLAMIC ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP OF WISCONSIN PROMOTES GREEN RAMADAN:

A Time for Renewal and Renewable Energy:

Celebrating the 5 "Rs": **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Renewable Energy in Ramadan!**

Ramadan, which began on August 1, 2011, is the Islamic spiritual month of daily fasting from food, water and other drinks, etc. from dawn till sunset. It is a time for spiritual renewal, purification, love and generous giving.

The Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin, a volunteer group formed in 2005, is promoting the Green Ramadan Initiative, by offering donations to local Mosques to cover expenses to enroll in the voluntary Energy for Tomorrow and Green Power Tomorrow Renewable Energy Programs offered by the electric utilities. As Ramadan is a month of spiritual soul purification, enrolling in these renewable energy programs to use biomass, wind and solar as energy resources is a first step towards air purification from the pollution generated by the non-renewable energy resources such as coal, of which more than 50% of the electricity used by many area congregations come from.

In addition, the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin is a member of a large grassroots coalition in Milwaukee, the Cleaner Valley Coalition, with the general objectives of healthier lungs and neighborhoods with coal reduction, cleaner air and environmental justice in the Menomonee Valley area surrounding the Valley Coal Plant with 24,000 neighboring residents most of whom are low-income people of color.

Energy conservation messages are promoted in the Muslim community, as the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin continues its annual distribution of free ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs to the poor and needy. Over the past four years, the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin in partnership with the Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light helped to empower an estimated savings of 795,353 kilowatt hours of energy, \$111,534.00 in energy costs, and prevented 1,468,962 pounds (734 tons) of greenhouse gas emissions.

The Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin is also facilitating a greener Iftar; a local, organic, and fair trade meal for the breaking of the fast, with the use of reusable and recyclable or biodegradable plates and utensils leading to reduced waste. For more information and to participate in the year-long Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin activities, contact interfaith.earth@yahoo.com.

The Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin intends to educate its members, the Muslim community and the general public about the Islamic environmental teachings, to apply the Islamic environmental teachings in daily life and to form coalitions with interfaith environmental organizations in Wisconsin working toward a just and sustainable future. See our year-long programs and activities at <http://islamicenvironmentalgroup.org/> Connect with us on Facebook, Click [HERE!](#)