

Quill Lake Kicks Off a Whole HEEP of Project Days

We've officially kicked off the fifth year of the SaskEnergy Home Energy Efficiency Project (HEEP)! On September 24, SaskEnergy/TransGas and Quill Lake volunteers came together to participate in the first 2010 HEEP project day.



The very inviting Quill Lake "Welcome" sign, located on Highway 5

HEEP's goal is to improve energy efficiency in the homes of low-income Saskatchewan families, especially during our province's challenging winters. Through the project, families save money on their energy costs while learning about some relatively simple and inexpensive home energy efficiency upgrades. Program partners and other community volunteers come together to perform these upgrades in both urban and rural communities throughout Saskatchewan. In this, the project's fifth and final year, HEEP organizers expect to achieve the original program goal of helping 2,500 Saskatchewan families.

The Quill Lake project day was the first of eight scheduled 2010 project days. After an official welcome, participating volunteers were provided with training and tips on proper product installation.

At around 9:30 a.m., the volunteers departed for their assigned morning homes to install programmable thermostats, low-flow showerheads, "water wizard" toilet tank inserts, fluorescent light bulbs, and plastic shrink film (to eliminate drafty doors and windows).

Five teams of two to three people made up the general and weather stripping squads, or "the strippers" (as they came to be known), while a group of four local men acted as the programmable thermostat installers for the day. In total, twenty Quill Lake residents joined the SaskEnergy road team to upgrade 61 homes in the village.



Quill Lake Mayor, Lyle Thibault, installs a programmable thermostat.

Two of our Service Techs from the Yorkton area arrived with a large natural gas barbeque to provide tasty burgers to everyone who made it out to the community lunch.

Following the barbeque, a \$5,000 cheque was presented by SaskEnergy/TransGas to the Quill Lake Community Centre, in support of recent upgrades to the facility's heating system. The grant was given as part of the Rural Community Initiative.



The Quill Lake Community Centre, which benefited from a \$5,000 SaskEnergy grant.

Judy Kanak, Administrator - Village of Quill Lake, summarized the project day: "Our volunteers had a great time working as a team and helping homeowners become more energy efficient. The homeowners were delighted to receive products and have someone else do the installation of them. Overall, a great day, a fun day, and a reward in the end for our new heating system at the hall. Thanks so much, SaskEnergy."

HEEP is a great success thanks to our continuous volunteer support.