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Lyons Village wastewater treatment plant goes green

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Lyons, N.Y. — Green improvements at the village of Lyons wastewater treatment facility are complete and residents are invited to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony this Saturday.

Village officials will unveil the improvements to the plant at a special ceremony Saturday, Nov. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the facility on Clyde Road in Lyons.

The improvements were made possible through 2009 federal stimulus funding awarded to the village through the Environmental Facilities Corporation Green Innovative Grant Program. The more than \$550,000 project included in-kind services by village employees who performed the work, which was started in last spring ultimately improving wastewater collection and treatment. Mayor Corrine Kleisle said the upgrades are expected to save taxpayers thousands of dollars each year. Although residents won't see the savings in the form of a rate reduction, Kleisle said the improvements will have a direct impact on the future rate structure.

"We were trying to save on some of our energy costs," Kleisle said. "The village is committed to a comprehensive program of energy conservation and efficiency."

Upgrades at the facility include the installation of a 40-kilowatt solar system array, expected to produce some 80,000 of kilowatt hours each year and reduce electrical demand by more than 15 percent saving about \$7,300 per year.

The 1,000-square foot green roof will reduce storm runoff and the demand for heating and cooling extending the life of the roof membrane.

The facility will collect and reuse about 30,000 gallons of rainwater each year. The water will be collected and transported to a 2,500-gallon tank where it will be recycled for non-potable uses, such as irrigation and equipment cleaning.

The replacement of existing light bulbs with LED fixtures is expected to reduce energy consumption by up to 60 percent. Energy sensors were installed in all interior rooms of the main control building so that lights will only be on when the room is in use. Daylight sensors on outside light sources will ensure the lights turn on at dusk and off again at dawn.

The plant's energy and water conservation improvements, along with renewable energy production are part of a long-term community sustainability plan developed by the village, Kleisle said.

"Investment in conservation and renewable energy contributes to America's path to energy independence and the creation of new green collar jobs," Kleisle said.

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