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## Green Events

### CALENDAR

For the month of March, Aspen residents are invited sign up for a **FREE energy audit with CORE!** This is a \$400 value and includes \$100 of FREE efficiency upgrades (programmable thermostats, energy saving light bulbs, and more). Sign up at the Aspen Environmental Health and Sustainability Department located on second floor of City Hall and be entered to win a smart power strip worth \$40!

**Tue. Mar 3 and Wed. Mar 4, 6:30 pm**

**Banff World Tour  
Wheeler Opera House,  
Aspen**

The Ute Mountaineer is pleased to be hosting the Banff World Tour in Aspen at the historic Wheeler Opera House for two nights. Admission is \$15 single night, \$25 for two day pass. For tickets call 970.920.5770. For more info



# Server Upgrade

## ASPEN'S I.T. DEPARTMENT

**The City of Aspen's IT department provides fundamental support to City employees and manages all aspects of the City's computer and network systems. This month, ZGreen spoke with IT Director Jim Considine about recent technology upgrades which should save a significant amount of energy!**

**ZGreen:** When and why did the IT department upgrade the server room in City Hall?

**IT:** The primary purpose of the new City Data Center was to modernize the space that incorporated the heart of the City network. This data center houses the equipment that provides data and phone services over a fiber network to all City facilities in the metro area. This improvement project began in 2012 and took roughly two years since it was part of a project that included other improvements to City Hall. The Data Center went live on August 11, 2014.

**ZGreen:** In layman's terms what was the nature of the server room upgrade?

**IT:** The upgrade includes five major components:

- We have almost doubled our capacity and will be able to accommodate growth if needed.
- A modern equipment rack system that provides expansion,

[click here.](#)

**Tue. Mar 3, 7:30 am  
ACES Morning Birding  
Hallam Lake, Aspen**

Birding in winter and early spring is great for exercising your birding skills and learning some non-breeding plumages. Bring binoculars, dress warmly. \$20 for Members and \$30 for Non Members. Please RSVP to ACES at 970.925.5756 or for more information [click here.](#)

**Tue. Mar 3, 5:30 pm  
Time Travel Tuesday  
"Lodging: Communal to Condo  
Wheeler Opera House,  
Aspen**

In partnership with Aspen Sojourner, the Aspen Historical Society explores the ski innovations that helped shape resort culture. Speakers to be announced. \$10 admission fee. For more information or call 970.925.3721.

**Wed. Mar 4, 7 pm  
The Adventurers Grand Slam  
Hallam Lake, Aspen**

Ryan Waters will share stories from his experience as the first American to complete the "Adventurers Grand Slam." Free to Members and \$5 for Non Members. For more info, [click here](#) or call 970.925.5756.

**Tue. Mar 10, 6 pm  
Cooking Demonstration:  
Appetizers for Entertaining  
Rock Bottom Ranch, Basalt**

Rock Bottom Ranch Director and experienced restaurant chef, Jason Smith, demonstrates how to prepare appetizers for entertaining. Class includes a recipe to take home and samples to taste. \$10 for Members and \$15 for Non Members. To RSVP or for more info, [click here.](#)

**Wed. Mar 11, 5:30 pm**

status monitoring, and advanced cooling capabilities.

- A stand-by generator fueled by natural gas that provides power to the Data Center if the main power fails. The generator also can provide capacity to support other potential uses in City Hall.
- Redundant air conditioning to keep the equipment cool. The air conditioning is also attached to the generator.
- A fire suppression system.

**ZGreen:** From an energy consumption perspective, is the new equipment more efficient?

**IT:** The primary energy saving aspect of the new Data Center is the ability to apply the cooling capability directly and efficiently to the equipment in the new racks. In our previous configuration we cooled the entire room and thus indirectly cooled the equipment. That provided inconsistent cooling and often created hot spots that impacted the useful life of equipment.

**ZGreen:** What are some of the IT department's current top priorities?

**IT:** Our top priority is to maintain continuous, reliable, and secure services to our City customers. Of almost equal importance, we work with our customers to explore, evaluate, and implement new technologies. Examples of new technologies include:

- Office 365. This Microsoft Office suite is an externally hosted service that provides access to email and other office applications anywhere and anytime utilizing a variety of access devices including PCs, iPads and smartphones.
- Server Virtualization. Our virtualization system provides the capability to implement application servers in software. Over the last four years the City has eliminated 37 physical servers that now operate as software on three physical virtualization host servers. The elimination of 37 physical servers represents a considerable energy savings.
- Desktop Virtualization. This is new technology that enables the City to provide desktop access to the City network for internal workers, mobile workers, and telecommuters. This access can be provided to a broad range of access devices including PCs, iPads, and even dumb terminals.

**ZGreen:** Please share one thing that City staff and the general public need to know about the department.

**IT:** We believe that technology can improve your work and personal life experiences and we are here to help.



**Naturalist Nights Lecture:  
Fire History in the Hunter  
Creek Valley  
Third Street Center,  
Carbondale**

Naturalist nights are brought to you through a partnership between ACES, Wilderness Workshop and Roaring Fork Audubon. Jason Sibold will present a fire history for Smuggler Mountain and the Hunter Creek drainage. For more info, [click here](#) or call 970.925.5756.

**Thu. Mar 12, 7 pm  
Naturalist Nights Lecture:  
Fire History in the Hunter  
Creek Valley  
Hallam Lake, Aspen**  
See description above.

**Thu. Mar 12, 4 pm  
Roaring Fork Conservancy  
Capital Creek Ranch  
Snowshoe Hike**

Meet at the Park and Ride in Old Snowmass and join the Open Space Land Officer, Steve Child the Pitkin County Commissioner and RFC staff on snowshoes through the Capitol Creek Ranch riparian area. Snowshoes required. FREE. Ages 12 and up. Dress appropriately. Registration is required. Please call 970.927.1290 to register or [click here](#) for more info.

**Fri. Mar 13 and Sat. Mar 14,  
7 pm  
Green is the New Black  
Fashion Show  
Carbondale Rec Center,  
Carbondale**

CCAH presents the 7th Annual Green Is the New Black Fashion Extravaganza. Pre-show dessert reception, beer, wine and martini bars. General seating \$35 Non-Members. For more info, [click here](#).

**Wed. Mar 18, 6 pm  
Wild and Scenic Films  
Wheeler Opera House,**

## SPOTLIGHT: ASPEN MAKES SEMIFINALS

# Georgetown University's \$5M Energy Prize

The Aspen community is in the running to win a grand prize of \$5 million if we can reduce more energy in our homes and municipal buildings than our competitors can.

Georgetown University created the competition to spur innovation in the field of energy efficiency, a field where many believe a new and creative approach is needed. The prize is intended to act as a catalyst for the long-term change that is needed to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in small U.S. cities.

Competing communities receive technical assistance and support from energy efficiency experts and all communities, regardless of whether they are the final winner, will receive the benefit of reducing energy consumption in homes, saving residents as much as \$200 a year. Aspen's fellow semifinalist cities all have a population range of 5,000 to 250,000 residents, and all communities are focused on energy efficiency gains in the residential and municipal sectors.

[Click here](#) to see a map of all fifty semi-finalists. Stay tuned for more information about how you can be a part of the Aspen Energy Challenge and help Aspen reduce energy, increase efficiency, save money and win \$5 million!

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## WHAT'S IN A NAME: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

**A greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory is a quantitative assessment of the greenhouse gasses emitted from all relevant sources in the town, business, or entity that is conducting the inventory.**

Some of the most common GHGs include carbon dioxide, nitrous

### Aspen

Considered one of the nation's premiere environmental and adventure film festivals, this year's films inform, inspire and ignite solutions and possibilities to restore the earth and human communities while creating a positive future for the next generation.

Tickets \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. To purchase, [click here](#).

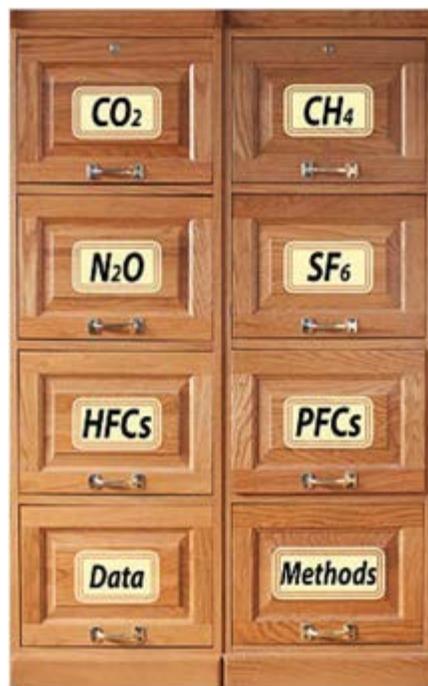
**Mon. Mar 23 - Fri. Mar 27,  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm**

### RBR Spring Ranchers

#### Rock Bottom Ranch, Basalt

Come to Rock Bottom Ranch this spring break to explore the life of a rancher and a naturalist. Ages 6yrs to 10yrs, \$50.00 Members and \$65.00 Non Members. For more info, [click here](#) or call 970.925.5756.

## ZGreen Programs LINKS & INFO



oxide, and methane. Other gasses such as chlorofluorocarbons, hydrofluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride may also be counted depending on what

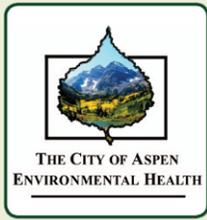
specific sources of emissions are considered in the inventory.

GHG emission inventory boundaries are either geographical (city limits for example) or operational (all activity associated with a business, government, etc.). The inventory can be used to track the progress of GHG reducing efforts over a period of time as well as to develop plans for reaching future targets in GHG reduction.

For example, an inventory could show that reduction efforts have cut GHG emissions 8 percent over the past 10 years inside of a city's geographic inventory boundary. The same inventory could then reveal that in order to reach a 20-year goal of a 30 percent reduction, there will need to be significant changes made in a given sector such as transportation to reach that longer term goal.

The City of Aspen is in the process of conducting two greenhouse gas inventories for the year 2014. One will analyze GHG emissions from City of Aspen government operations that include purchased electricity, stationary combustion, transportation, waste disposal, and emissions from waste water treatment. The second is a community wide inventory that will look at the same sources for a broader geographic area including the city limits of Aspen and select parts of Pitkin County outside of the Aspen.

This will be the fourth set of inventories for our area with the first coming in 2004, coinciding with the launch of the Canary Initiative, and subsequent inventories to examine 2007 and 2011 data.



Canary Initiative · 970.429.1798  
Environmental Health & Sustainability · 970.920.5039  
City of Aspen · 130 S Galena Street · Aspen, CO 81611

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