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Contact: Adam Haas | Interpretive Specialist
412/622-6915, ext. 3803 | ahaas@phipps.conservatory.org

Photo Opportunity

Phipps Conservatory installs visual display of how one family can prevent 16 barrels of oil from being burned every year

What: Make the Switch at Phipps! Green Power Drive

When: Thurs., June 8

Where: The Welcome Center at [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#)

Who: Adam Haas, interpretive specialist

Details: — Phipps is installing a visual display that demonstrates how many barrels of oil the average U.S. home could save from being burned by switching their home electricity source to fossil-free renewable energy.

Since the beginning of 2017, Phipps has helped 1,180 households convert their home electricity source to fossil-free renewable energy through the **Make the Switch at Phipps! Green Power Drive**, sponsored by [Green Mountain Energy](#) (GME). When guests make the switch during their visit to the Conservatory, they receive a free, year-long family/household membership, and existing members receive a free six-month extension.

Powering the average Pennsylvania home emits about 8 tons of carbon dioxide annually, so at the end of a year and each year thereafter, these guests will have prevented 9,322 tons of carbon dioxide emissions with the help of Phipps and GME. That is equivalent to an annual savings of 112 tanker trucks worth of gasoline from being burned, 19,579 barrels of oil from being burned, or 20,267,979 miles from being driven by an average passenger car.

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About Phipps: Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Learn more: phipps.conservatory.org.

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