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**Sharp Sustainability Education Center at Ramapo College of New Jersey holds
Open House as part of the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association's Green
Buildings Tour**

(MAHWAH, NJ) - The Sharp Sustainability Education Center at Ramapo College of New Jersey will hold an Open House as part of the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association's (NESEA) Green Buildings Open House Tour on Saturday, Oct. 2.

NESEA's Green Buildings Open House (GBOH) is the largest sustainable energy event in the Northeastern United States, from Maine to Pennsylvania. It operates in conjunction with the American Solar Energy Society's National Solar Tour and helps to kick off National Energy Awareness Month. The goal of the GBOH event is to enable participants to see, firsthand, energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements in their communities and motivate them to adopt similar solutions for their own homes. At host sites, participants are able to talk with home and business owners, ask questions, and see how their renewable energy technologies actually work.

The Sharp Sustainability Education Center is a showcase for sustainable and green practices, from the geographic location of the Center to energy-efficient appliances, which the GBOH will discuss in detail. The location of the Center allows for maximum exposure to sunlight for energy, while fewer windows on the shady sides of the building prevent heat loss in the winter. The building is equipped with photovoltaic panels, which uses solar energy to run the Center's systems, as well as a geothermal field pump, a system providing heating and cooling using the ground's constant temperature; in the summer, excess heat from the building is pumped into the cooler ground, and in the winter, the heat from the ground is pumped into the building.

The Sharp Sustainability Education Center, located on the Ramapo College of New Jersey Campus will hold its Open Houses on Saturday, October 2, at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. The Open Houses are free and open to the public. For general information on the Center, including exact location on campus, please visit the following link: <http://www.nesea.org/Scripts/googleMaps/detail.php?id=3327>. For additional information, please contact Emma Rainforth at 201.684.7209. For media inquiries, please contact Anna Farneski at 201-684-6844.

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