

ENERGY EDUCATION

PURPOSE

SPE encourages its members to educate students and civic organizations about energy by giving presentations. Energy is a challenging issue of our time, and SPE believes personal contact is an effective way to provide the facts. SPE's Energy4me Program is designed to create critical mass with website and speaker programs to make Energy4me a trusted resource for energy information.

STRUCTURE

Each section will approach energy education differently depending on the section size and activity level. Sections with the most successful programs generally have a committee to oversee energy education activities. This committee is comprised of a chairperson and three to five members who all serve more than 1 year, with staggered terms. Some energy education committees appoint one member to each aspect of an event, such as one person to oversee teacher workshops, another for speaker programs, and still another for other community outreach. Another option is to assign committee members to specific events for which they would be responsible for all the event activities.

DETERMINING THE SECTION'S INTERESTS

There are many simple and effective ways to assess the section's energy education interests. Your section subcommittees may be able to help select appropriate energy education initiatives. Member interest surveys can be conducted through the section newsletter.

SETTING A PLAN OF ACTION

There are many outreach opportunities for energy education. Based on your section's interests, your section may consider the following activities:

- Post your section scholarship information in SPE's scholarship database by sending information and updates to EnergyEd@energy4me.org
- Coordinate the distribution of SPE's *Oil and Natural Gas* educational book for students to your local school libraries. Contact EnergyEd@energy4me.org or visit energy4me.org for more information.
- Contact a local school or administrative district to offer members as classroom speakers.
- Encourage members to talk with their children's teachers about classroom speaking opportunities and materials for teachers available on energy4me.org.
- Seek out opportunities to speak to local clubs and civic organizations.

- Order an Energy4me Kit for speaker resources, sample presentations, videos, and fun classroom experiments for all grade levels. Visit energy4me.org to place your order or for more information.
- Volunteer to judge science fair projects or speak at a career fair for secondary students.
- Help Boy and Girl Scouts earn energy or engineering merit badges.
- Take part in Engineers Week activities that are held annually in February. SPE is a sponsoring society of this global event that focuses on engineering careers. See eweek.org for more information.
- Organize geological field trips.
- Provide information and training to teachers, career counselors, parents, and others who interact directly with students.
- Tell friends, family, and the community about SPE's energy education website, energy4me.org.

SPE provides additional speaker resources and career information for students on energy4me.org.

For more information, contact

Society of Petroleum Engineers

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