DEP offers an array of energy efficiency programs for businesses. DEP provides cash incentives to encourage the purchase and installation of high-efficiency lighting, HVAC systems, chillers and refrigeration equipment. The incentives make it easier to afford energy efficiency upgrades for your business. Details can be found at: http://www.duke-energy.com/pdfs/eeb-program-overview.pdf

The incentives are available for new construction, retrofit of existing equipment and replacement of failed equipment. Before you purchase new equipment, consult with DEP to ask if they will assist you in paying for a portion of the equipment cost.

Many of the items described on the back of this newsletter qualify for incentives under this program. Those items generally pay for themselves in one to two years without the rebate. With the rebates, they will often pay for themselves in six to 12 months.

Section 179d Commercial Building Tax Deduction

Section 179d of the Internal Revenue Code offers new or existing qualified building owners a one-time depreciation deduction of up to $1.80 per square foot for their installation of energy efficiency measures such as high efficiency interior lighting; efficient building envelopes; or heating, cooling, ventilation (HVAC), or hot water systems.

This tax credit would apply to many of the items listed in the article on the back of this page. If you have done any of those items, be sure to talk with your tax preparer about the possibility of a 179d deduction.

**Federal Business Energy Investment Tax Credit**

The federal government offers a generous investment tax credit to pay for 30% of certain approved energy improvements made by business owners. Approved projects include solar power, wind power, geothermal, fuel cells and more. If you are making an investment in one of these technologies, be sure to talk with your tax preparer and take advantage of this valuable tax credit.

The below link provides more details about the tax credits.

http://energy.gov/savings/business-energy-investment-tax-credit-itec

**Save Energy Win an iPad**

At UMS, we are also working to promote energy efficiency. On the back of this newsletter is an article about 10 common energy efficiency improvement measures. If you have completed at least three of these items, check the box for each item that you have completed, provide your contact information and FAX the completed form to UMS at (910) 793-2946.

In mid-October, we will randomly draw one name from the completed forms that were submitted and send an iPad to that individual.
Ten Simple Steps

Here are ten simple steps you can take to conserve energy. Many of them apply at work and at home. They typically pay for themselves in less than two years.

☐ 1. Eliminate incandescent lighting. Incandescent lighting was state of the art in 1879. Now, it is obsolete. If you have any lamps or recessed lights with incandescent bulbs, replace them with compact fluorescent (CFL) or light emitting diode (LED) bulbs.

☐ 2. Upgrade T12 fluorescent lights. If your fluorescent bulbs are marked T12, it is time to upgrade. Consider high-efficiency T8, T5 or LED lighting.

☐ 3. Upgrade EXIT signs to LED. EXIT signs operate 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. Upgrading incandescent EXIT signs to LED pays for itself in less than a year.

☐ 4. Upgrade outside lighting to LED. If you lease lights for parking areas from your power provider, see if they will upgrade these lights to LED. By our request, the power provider upgraded our parking lot lights. These lights provide us with 60% more light for $5 less each month with no up-front costs.

☐ 5. Install occupancy sensors. Occupancy sensors detect motion and turn on lights. When there is no motion, the lights turn off. Install them in breakrooms, conference rooms, individual offices and other areas that are empty for extended periods.

☐ 6. Install and use programmable thermostats. Programmable thermostats automatically turn the temperature up or down when an area is not being used. This prevents unnecessary heating or cooling at night or on weekends when the facility is empty.

☐ 7. Replace air filters. Replacing air filters regularly improves the efficiency of your HVAC systems and your air quality. Consider using this newsletter as your quarterly reminder to replace air filters.

☐ 8. Install window film. Window film reduces the heat that comes into a building from the sun. This reduces air conditioning costs and damage from sunrays.

☐ 9. Eliminate surplus refrigerators and soft drink vending machines. Do you have refrigerators or soft drink vending machines that get limited use? Eliminating them will save about $120/year and the burning of 1,200 pounds of coal per year to produce the electricity.

☐ 10. Install vending misers on soft drink vending machines. These are simple to use, plug-in motion detectors for soft drink machines. They prevent soft drink vending machines from running when a facility is empty. When people are present, the machine runs regularly.

If you have done at least three of the above items, check the box for the ones you have completed, fill in the contact information below and fax this document to UMS at (910) 793-2946 for a chance to win an iPad in our October drawing.

Company Name: ____________________________

Contact Name: ____________________________ Phone or Email: ____________________________

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