

Greenwood Lake gets grant for wind study

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GREENWOOD LAKE — If there is one thing village leaders want to know, it's whether Greenwood Lake can get even greener.

Eco-friendly, that is.

The village recently received a \$4,700 grant from Orange County to fund a feasibility study to determine if it's possible to harness wind as a power source for the municipality.

"Our ultimate goal is to be using the resources that were given to us on this planet instead of using oil or fossil fuels," Mayor Barbara Moore said.

Partnering with the Monroe-based Green Energy Act, the village installed sensors on a fire tower at Village Hall, at Waterfront Park, one on water tanks on the west side of the village and one on top of the refreshments stand at the recreation field.

The sensors, which will stay for six months, will measure how strong

wind is in those areas. If the study results are positive, Moore hopes to apply for grants that would pay for turbines.

This is not the first time Greenwood Lake is moving to eco-friendly practices, Moore said.

The village received \$550,000 from the state Environmental Facilities Corp. to build rain gardens to absorb storm water runoff before it enters the lake. Another \$13,000 grant is funding a similar project along Waterstone Road.

"The lake is our biggest and greatest natural resource here," Moore said, "and we need to make sure we protect it."

In addition to the wind sensors, Green Energy Act built the village a new Web site, www.greengreenwoodlake.com, and is offering village residents a discount on home audits and green construction.

For every resident who contracts with it, Green Energy Act will set aside money to pay for municipal projects.