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Sun powers stop signs



Branson has taken another step in “going green” by installing solar-powered, flashing stop signs at two busy intersections – Gretna Road and Wildwood and at Wildwood and Golf View Drive.

The solar panels are attached above the signs and energy from the sun and not electricity powers the flashing red LED lights around the signs.

Total cost for the four stop signs, the first in the city, was \$4,100, but the city expects to recoup that money over time in electric savings.

The city’s engineering and public works department placed the signs at these particular intersections because their locations make them difficult to see, and especially after dark. According to the sign’s manufacturer, the attraction of the bright flashing LED lights will bring attention to a distracted driver up to two miles away.

City officials believe that by increasing the visibility of the stop signs, they will also improve safety at the intersections.

In addition to the sun-powered stop signs, other green initiatives taken by the city include:

- Installing LED lights at the RecPlex parking lot
- Performing an energy audit of all city facilities
- Creating a Sustainability Council composed of city employees to lead city initiatives
- Reusing aluminum street signs
- Considering vehicle replacement policy that will encourage fuel-efficient vehicle purchases