

Thut Park – Madison, Wisconsin Community Park Showcases Solar LED Lighting Technology



The Carmanah EverGEN™ 1710 being installed at Thut Park

Project Summary

End User:

Madison Gas and Electric Company

Lighting Agent:

Enterprise Lighting, McFarland Wisconsin

Project Scope:

Solar LED pathway lighting for a community park.

Product:

Carmanah EverGEN™ 1710 solar LED pathway lights

Benefits:

No trenching or environmental disruption required for installation. Demonstration of renewable solar LED lighting technology for public viewing. Encourages interest and fosters public knowledge of solar LED lighting.

Project Specification:

Systems:

Five systems

IES Type II distribution – 1363 lumens

Mounting height: 20 ft.

Operating Profile:

Split Night, 5hr, 25%, 2hr: The light comes on at dusk at full intensity for five hours, then dims to 25% of full intensity, the light returns to full intensity two hours before dawn.

Thut Park - Madison, Wisconsin Continued...

Planning, building and completing Thut Park has been no small feat for the community of Waunona in Madison, Wisconsin. This labour of love began when the first parcel of land was given to the City of Madison by the Thut family over twenty years ago.

The planning and creation of the park has involved the entire neighbourhood and now that the park is finally complete, it is a place the people of Waunona can enjoy together. Facilities include a playground, picnic shelter and basketball court as well as a pedestrian pathway. Although plans for the park had always included the pedestrian pathway, they had not accounted for pathway lighting. This left the community in a unique situation: the path was there and the need for illumination was there, but there was no means of bringing conventionally powered lighting to the site without considerable expense and environmental disruption.

That's when a Waunona neighbourhood group approached the Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE) about installing solar lighting. MGE is well known for the green energy presence it has established in the City of Madison. With a green power program that was named best in the United States by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, MGE has extensive experience with renewable technologies. The company strives to gain actual experience with a variety of renewable technologies and to share that expertise with their customers.

MGE willingly partnered with the City of Madison and took on the task of investigating their solar lighting options. Although the company had experience with solar lighting, this time they were interested in a solar solution that offered both solar power and LED illumination. The company enlisted the help of lighting agents Enterprise Lighting in their search for just the right light. It didn't take long before Enterprise came to the table and proposed the Carmanah EverGEN™ 1710.

Compact and self-contained, the EverGEN 1710 offered both the performance and the aesthetics required for a park pathway lighting application. Not only did the EverGEN 1710 help to avoid extensive, costly trenching of power lines during installation, the units are designed to install in 30 minutes or less, making installation easy and efficient. The units also provided a solution that will operate reliably for many years to come without generating a single electrical bill. Featuring BetaLED™ fixtures, the 1710 units offer Dark-Sky friendly illumination, helping to maintain the integrity of the park's natural night environment and prevent light pollution.

"At MGE, we aren't just reading about new technologies," said Dave Toso a Senior Engineer at MGE, "we are gaining actual experience with them. When the Carmanah solution came to our attention the choice was an obvious one. We were impressed with the product's performance and we knew the EverGEN would provide us with a fantastic showcase of the latest and most innovative solar LED lighting technology. It is important for us to stay on the leading edge of renewable technologies, but it is even more important that our customers understand that this technology is real and it works."

Providing IES Type II distribution and offering an adaptive lighting profile that dims light levels during late night hours when the pathway experiences reduced usage, the EverGEN 1710 units will bring increased safety and usability to this important community green space.

For more information on:
Carmanah Technologies, please visit:
www.carmanah.com/lighting
Enterprise Lighting, please visit:
www.enterpriselighting.com
Madison Gas and Electric Company please visit: www.mge.com/environment/innovative



The Carmanah EverGEN 1710 units are compact, self-contained and designed to install in 30 minutes or less.



Carmanah EverGEN 1710 solar LED lighting illuminating the pathway at Thut Park in Madison, Wisconsin.