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Kick-off event venue space donated by



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Volunteers from Schenectady County to Take Part in Community Solar NY Program To Support Growth of Photovoltaic Investment Under NY-Sun

*Solarize Schenectady County Program Offers Limited-Time Discounts to Local Residents;
Kick-Off Event to Take Place on May 1, 2016 at the opening of Schenectady Greenmarket's outdoor
season*

Volunteers from Schenectady County will take part in Community Solar NY, a program that will make investing in solar power easier and more affordable for local residents and businesses.

The Solarize Schenectady County program will kick off our season at Schenectady Greenmarket on May 1, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Jay and Franklin Streets around City Hall in conjunction with the market's opening day. The solarize volunteers will make a formal announcement at 11:45 a.m. Residents and business owners can learn about the program and meet the volunteers organizing the effort.

"We are excited to see Solarize Schenectady kickoff its outreach program to raise awareness of and showcase opportunities for renewable energy use in our community," said Mayor Gary R. McCarthy. "Solarize Schenectady contributes to our goals of reducing the City's carbon footprint and reducing our community's reliance on traditional fossil fuel."

Community Solar NY makes implementing solar easier and more affordable by supporting locally-organized community outreach efforts aimed at getting a critical mass of area homes and businesses to install solar and obtain competitive pricing, thereby lowering the cost. Historically, Solarize campaigns lower the cost of solar by 10 to 20 percent.

"Businesses and homes throughout the Capital Region and across the nation are moving toward renewable sources of energy like solar – and the benefits are clear. Community Solar NY is a program that saves money and makes our communities a cleaner, more sustainable place to live. I thank the team at the Schenectady Greenmarket and those promoting the Community Solar campaign for working to make our region a greener place to live" said Congressman Paul Tonko.

After a thorough pre-qualification process, Solarize Schenectady County has selected Solar Liberty as the designated solar installer for their campaign.

“Solar Liberty is honored to be the selected as the sole installer for the Solarize Schenectady County initiative. We are excited to bring low cost solar energy to the region. Due to our recent success with SunShares, an employer-based buying group program, we are proud to have expanded the Solar Liberty presence into the Albany/Schenectady area. We look forward to the opportunity to help more home and business owners go solar, both for the benefit of the environment and also to help residents save money on their electric bills” said Adam Rizzo, President of Solar Liberty.

Residents and businesses who sign up for solar installations by October 15, 2016 will be able to take advantage of group rates below market prices. The volunteers will be participating in community events and giving presentations from May 1 to September 30, 2016. For more information on those events please visit solarizeschenectadycounty.org

Solarize Schenectady County is supported by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) under Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's NY-Sun initiative. NY-Sun will invest up to \$1 billion in solar power through 2023 to significantly expand solar installations across the State, ultimately transforming New York’s solar industry to become self-sustaining.

Solarize Schenectady County will officially kick off on May 1, 2016, celebrating with the Schenectady Greenmarket on the opening of their outdoor season. Residents and businesses owners who are interested in learning more about Solarize Schenectady County are urged to visit our booth space that was made available by the Schenectady Greenmarket!

More information about Solarize Schenectady County can be found by visiting <http://solarizeschenectadycounty.org/> or by contacting Solar Liberty.

More information about Schenectady Greenmarket can be found by visiting <http://schenectadygreenmarket.org/>.

About NYSERDA: NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation, offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and funding to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect the environment and create clean-energy jobs. NYSERDA has been developing partnerships to advance innovative energy solutions in New York State since 1975. To learn more about NYSERDA’s programs and funding opportunities, visit nysesda.ny.gov or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, or Instagram.

About Schenectady Greenmarket:

Schenectady Greenmarket connects farm and city to create a responsible, sustainable food system – right in the heart of downtown Schenectady. Each Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., vendors, shoppers, musicians and friends gather to purchase fresh local produce and artisan goods in a festive community marketplace. EBT, credit and debit cards accepted.

The market is a 501(c)3 non-profit run by a board of volunteers. To make a tax-deductible donation to help support your Schenectady Greenmarket, visit our website or make a donation at the market table

any Sunday. Visit www.schenectadygreenmarket.org or join us on Facebook www.facebook.com/SchenectadyGreenmarket for weekly updates and information about vendors, special events, parking and more.

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