

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Madison County Participates in Largest Solarize Campaign in New York State

Madison County is once again offering an opportunity for residents, businesses, farms and institutions to take advantage of reduced pricing and other assistance for purchasing solar photovoltaic (PV) systems through the Solarize CNY campaign. The County will be working with the Canastota-based installation company, CNY Solar, to help customers understand the benefits and incentives available for solar systems. The program is part of a region-wide Solarize campaign being organized by the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNYRPDB). Madison County is participating along with Cayuga, Cortland, Oswego and Onondaga Counties, making Solarize CNY one of the largest community solar programs in the country.

“The solar energy market in New York and across the country is exploding, and there has never been a better time to go solar. Residential solar in the first three months of 2015 was up by 76% over 2014, with average prices declining 10% in the last year,” said Chris Carrick, Energy Program Manager at the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board. “We encourage residential and commercial customers to participate in our campaign and to invest in solar while state and federal incentives and tax credits remain in place.”

Solarize CNY is a volume-purchasing program that streamlines the process and lessens the cost of installing solar energy for electricity. With this approach, community members are invited to learn about installing a solar PV system during a series of public meetings throughout the county, and can even get a free assessment without pressure to buy, if they choose. Prices for Madison County participants start at

Public Meetings

To learn more about solar and the program, interested participants are encouraged to attend any of the free public information meetings scheduled across Madison County:

Thursday July 30
7-9 pm
Hamilton Public Library
13 Broad Street Hamilton, NY

Thursday August 6
7-9 pm
Kallet Theater
159 Main Street Oneida, NY

Wednesday August 12
6-8 pm
Canastota Public Library
102 West Center Street Canastota, NY

Thursday August 20
7-9 pm
Cazenovia Public Library
100 Albany Street Cazenovia, NY

\$3.00 per watt, which is 15% lower than the state average of \$3.52 per watt. Just two years ago, the state average for a solar PV system was \$6.00 per watt. In addition to the up-front discounted price, due to the bulk purchasing power of the program, many customers who participate in the program will be eligible for a \$0.60 per watt rebate through NYSERDA and may also be eligible for additional federal and state tax credits. In total, customers can save up to 64% off the sticker price of a solar PV system by participating in Solarize CNY. With the Solarize CNY program all permits and paperwork associated with installing the system are taken care of for the participant.

Madison County is a leader in solar energy installations. In 2012 and 2013 the county sponsored the first Solarize campaigns in New York. In those two years, a total of 47 solar PV systems were installed. Those systems together generate over 300 kilowatts of solar power for area residents.

“Madison County is proud to partner with Solarize CNY for what will be our 3rd Solarize Campaign. It is very encouraging to see the collaboration between the Regional Planning Board and our five counties with a focus on technology that can save money and provide clean, efficient, and nearly maintenance free energy for our communities, homes, farms, and businesses,” said Scott Ingmire of the Madison County Planning Department.

Solarize CNY is open to any home, business, farm, and municipality in the 5 county region. CNY Solar is the selected installer for participants within Madison County. To participate, those interested must enroll for a free site assessment by October 15, 2015. To sign up for a free site assessment or for more details on the program including testimonials from past year’s programs, information of solar systems, and pricing visit www.solarizecny.org.

About Solarize CNY

Solarize CNY is a grassroots community effort in the Central New York region which includes Madison, Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga, and Oswego counties. It is focused on community solar initiatives to help residents, business owners, farms, institutions, and municipalities overcome the financial and logistical hurdles of installing solar power through high volume group purchasing. The project will effectively merge community activism and education, simple low-cost marketing, job creation, and economies of scale to drive participation. The goal of Solarize CNY is to transform interest in clean energy into action by tackling the three major market barriers: cost, a complex process, and customer commitment. For more information visit: www.solarizecny.org.

About CNY Solar

CNY Solar, Inc. is a NABCEP certified Solar PV installer located in Madison County in Canastota, N.Y. CNY Solar has installed over 450 Solar Electric installs in Central New York. This will be their third solarize program in Central New York. Systems include roof mount, solar awning, ground mount, and pole mount. Visit: <http://cnysolar.net/>



Solarize CNY Kickoff event at Hansen's Advisory Services in Fayetteville, NY - July 16, 2015

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