

Join us on September 19 at Valley of the Moon for our 2nd Annual Equinox Solar Potluck



**2nd ANNUAL EQUINOX SOLAR POTLUCK
VALLEY OF THE MOON
2544 East Allen Road
Saturday, September 19, 2015
Noon to Sunset
by Bruce Joseph, Chair of Citizens for Solar**

**Ever cook a hotdog using only the sun?
How about cookies, ribs or a baked potato?**

Citizens for Solar is holding our ***Second Annual Equinox Solar Potluck at Valley of the Moon on Saturday, September 19, 2015***. The event starts at noon and will feature solar cooked food, acoustic musicians, talks on green topics and exhibitors throughout the day.

The Equinox Solar Potluck is a free and family-friendly. Numerous solar cooks will prepare and hand out solar cooked food samples all day long and we'll have a solar cooked potluck dinner around 5:00 pm. The potluck dinner is open to all who attend and will include a wide range of dishes - expect solar cooked meats, stews, veggies, casseroles, desserts and much more. Those who do not solar cook are asked, but not required, to bring a side dish or beverage to share.

In addition to solar cooking demonstrations, we'll have acoustic musicians performing throughout the day, experts talking about topics such as reducing energy use, composting, and solar photovoltaic (PV) and hot water systems. (Topics are subject to change.) We'll also have exhibitors showcasing environmentally friendly products and services.

Almost anything that can be cooked in a kitchen can be cooked using a solar cooker. Solar cookers can function like crockpots (slow cookers), ovens and stovetop burners, and we'll have homemade and commercially built versions of these. We'll even have a parabolic dish cooker that can set a 2" x 4" on fire in

just a few seconds!

If you are a solar cook, please come out and cook with us.

Don't have a solar oven? Enter our raffle for a chance to win a Global Sun Oven, a GoSun Mini, and other prizes. Raffle proceeds fund our community service projects.

For more information, please contact Bruce Joseph at chair@citizensforsolar.org.

Citizens for Solar is a Tucson based, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit. Our Annual Solar Potluck, which takes place each spring, is the world's longest continuously running annual solar event. Our 34th Annual Solar Potluck will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at Catalina State Park.

Our goal is to educate the public about solar power through solar cooking. In conjunction with Solar Guild, we have done several solar based community service projects.

Please note that alcoholic beverages are not allowed at Valley of the Moon.

We hope to see you there!

Citizens for Solar: citizensforsolar.org
Valley of the Moon: valleyofthemoon.com
Solar Guild: solarguild.org

We Built a PV System for Goodwill Industries

On July 17, members of Citizens for Solar and Solar Guild built a stand-alone portable photovoltaic system for the GoodFutures Program of Goodwill Industries with the assistance of youth interested in helping.



The workshop started with a film showing glaciers breaking away that demonstrated the reality of global climate change. This visual evidence indicating the need for more solar energy got everyone motivated. Then there was a discussion of the increase in the use of solar in Tucson and how the industry is seriously starting to snowball.

During the workshop, our members demonstrated solar by cooking beans with the sun and using a solar cooler to cool everyone off. What a great meal!

At first, the youth were quiet. By the end, they were fully participating. There was a shift in their attitude, and they got a little spark, excited about being involved with the project. Our members did

What a Successful Solar Oven Workshop!

18 people attended the "build-your-own" solar oven workshop at Xerocraft on July 11.

The group made one cardboard oven as a demonstration. CFS and Solar Guild members explained the principles of trapping heat behind the glass to cook food. The oven was made of cardboard with crushed paper insulation and one pane of double strength (1/8" thick) glass. The group also learned that if they moved the glass over 1/4", the oven would become a food dehydrator. It was also explained how to make a large food dehydrator using a cardboard box from a refrigerator and a patio glass door.



Everyone received plans on how to build a basic solar oven. The workshop was a big hit!

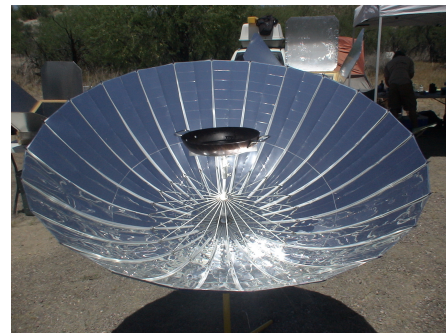
Something New On Our Website

Our website promotes Citizens for Solar, Solar Guild, the potlucks, solar cooking, and our community service activities. We added a "Donation" button to our website because we've had many people ask how they can help our organization. Check out the new part of our website at citizensforsolar.org.

Upcoming Events

September 19 - 2nd Annual Equinox Solar Potluck, Valley of the Moon, 2544 East Allen Road, Tucson. For information, call Bruce Joseph at 887-9691.

Week of September 7 - Miracle Square PV installation with Geoinnovation. Miracle Square is a non-profit that serves low-income elderly people. Geoinnovation and members of CFS and Solar Guild are installing a nearly 6kW PV system on a ramada that will power the administration building. In addition, Miracle Square will have efficient air conditioning units installed on 20 of its units, all of which will decrease its electricity consumption by 50%. If you want details on date and time, contact George Villec at george@geoinnovation.com or (520) 615-3883.



October 18 - Booth at Envision Tucson Sustainable Festival, with solar cooking demonstration and photovoltaic exhibit, YWCA, 525 North Bonita, Tucson, 11am - 4pm. [Visit Envision Tucson Sustainable Festival's webpage here](#) Come visit our booth and learn more about how you can use solar energy!

Date To Be Determined - Build the "evacuated tube" style cooker, a special kind of solar cooker that gets very hot and cooks food quickly, Xerocraft, 101 West 6th Street, Tucson.

Date To Be Determined - "The Land With No Name," a local non-profit artistic group, has asked CFS and Solar Guild members to install an entire standalone photovoltaic system and a very efficient air conditioning and heating system to its workshop.

Date To Be Determined - Catalina State Park is building a new ramada, and CFS and Solar Guild members will be installing a photovoltaic lighting system so visitors can be illuminated at night.

April 30, 2016 - 34th Annual Solar Potluck and Exhibition, Catalina State Park, 11570 N Oracle Rd, Tucson. [Visit CFS's 2016 Solar Potluck page here](#)

Monthly Meetings

Please join us the first Tuesday of every month at the Ward 6 office located at 3202 East 1st Street, Tucson. Our meetings start at 6 pm and go until about 7:30 pm.

The Win-Win of Putting a Price on Carbon, by Thom Hartmann

Electricity bills in the Northeast have dropped \$460 million dollars since that region put a price on carbon.

Back in 2011, nine Northeastern states established the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative - better known as RGGI. And, the benefits of that regional cap-and-trade system just keep adding up.

Since it was established, that program has added \$1.3 billion dollars of economic activity to the region, reduced carbon emissions by 15 percent, and saved customers a ton on their electric bills. Those are the facts according to an independent analysis released last week, and they prove that all the warnings about a carbon tax are nothing but Big Oil's fear mongering.

Critics of the RGGI plan warned that the system would cause a spike in electricity prices for consumers and put a damper on the local economy, but the program has had the opposite effect on both counts. The revenue collected from the program has been used to invest in energy efficiency, renewable energy projects, and bill-payment assistance for consumers.

Those investments have helped stimulate the regional economy, and lower electric bills mean customers have more money to spend locally. And, the program has been so successful that it could be used as a model to help more states comply with the EPA's Clean Power Plan, which is set to be released next month.

One of the authors of the recent analysis report said, "The nine New England states' experience with RGGI can provide other states with valuable lessons for how one might comply with the CO2 regulations included in the Clean Power Plan."

In just four years, the Northeast has developed and implemented a system that boosts their economies, reduces greenhouse gas, and lowers electricity bills for average Americans. That's what you call a win-win, and it's just the type of plan we should be implementing nation-wide.



