

Solarize Cranston reaches Tier 3 milestone

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Cranston residents interested in solar can expect to save 20-25 percent as part of the Solarize Cranston program. As of last Friday, Solarize Cranston has reached Tier 3 and as a result, residents can expect great savings and discounted pricing for any solar contract signed during the program. The thirty-one contracts which have been signed to date, totaling more than 190 kilowatts, will lower prices and increase savings for all Cranston residents using a group-buying model and neighbor to neighbor community outreach.

Solarize Cranston, a partnership between the Office of Energy Resources, the Town of Cranston and non-profit SmartPower, drives down the cost of installation of small-scale solar systems through a group purchasing model. Solarize Cranston has been largely embraced by the community, and residents have been signing up at community events including the Pawtuxet Farmers Market and an information table at the Cranston Central Library.

"We are fortunate to have a great team of solar ambassadors working to get the word out across the City, said Karen Stewart, Community Organizing Manager for SmartPower. Neighbors talking to neighbors is the best way for people to learn more about how solar works and about how much you can save using our state incentive programs."

In addition to a low installation cost, participants have access to several state and federal incentives that can cut the cost of each project substantially. A Tiered Pricing incentive allows residents to achieve lower pricing as more people sign contracts. Each resident signing a contract will now receive a \$577 credit off their total system cost.

"The Solarize RI program offers homeowners all the information they need to make an informed decision," said Tom Champlin, Residential Sales Manager of RGS Energy, the City's chosen solar installer. "Acting now ensures a quicker pay back and greater savings. It really is the best time to go solar in Rhode Island's history."

Over 150 Cranston residents have signed up for the program since it launched on June 7. Solarize Cranston has held two community presentations and has been present at various town events over the summer, including the Garden City Summer Concert series and the Pawtuxet Farmer's Market.

Residents who are considering signing up before the September 8th deadline and who would like a free estimate from RGS Energy, the City's chosen solar installer, are asked to visit www.solarizeri.com/Cranston or call 1-888 56 SOLAR.