

OUR RESPONSE TO A CREATION IN PERIL

Helpful links related to:
Rooftop solar, community solar,
home electrification, and electric vehicles

Presented to:
Fair Oaks Adult Education
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Art Spooner
Interfaith Green Network
artspooner@comcast.net

It's easier (and cheaper) to go solar than ever...

Rooftop solar

- ▶ Make an electronic copy of your most recent electric bill
- ▶ Grow Solar Chicagoland: (a) group buy program, (b) free site assessment:
growsolar.org/Chicagoland
- ▶ Illinois Solar Energy Association, is a good resource:
<https://www.illinoissolar.org/>
<https://www.illinoissolar.org/ISEA-Public-Education-Webinars>
- ▶ Citizens Utility Board is another good resource:
<https://www.citizensutilityboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/CUBs-Guide-to-Solar.pdf?eType=EmailConfirmation&eId=8a782a6c-b0c6-488e-8c91-f47a1ab89875>

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Community solar

- ▶ Make an electronic copy of your most recent electric bill
- ▶ Citizens Utility Board is a good resource:
citizensutilityboard.org/solar-in-the-community
- ▶ Both Oak Park and River Forest have “pilot programs” where you can apply directly to MC2:
<https://oakparksolar.mc2energyservices.com/>
- ▶ One issue in the community solar market has been cycle time.
 - ▶ Before signing up, ask “When will my subscription go live?” and “When will I start to see credits on my utility bill?”
 - ▶ Once you sign up you can also check with the company for updates on your project.
- ▶ Solar companies work to help you track the dollar savings.

Electrification and Electric Vehicles (EVs)

- ▶ Oak Park Climate Action Network (OPCAN) is a valuable community resource. Here is their electrification guide:

<https://bit.ly/electrify-your-oak-park-home>

- ▶ EV marketplace is changing quickly
 - ▶ Up to \$7500 federal tax credit and a \$4000 state rebate are available for purchases of new vehicles, depending on manufacturing and raw material location.
 - ▶ Must apply for state rebate within 90 days of purchase.
 - ▶ State program funded through 2026; federal program through 2032.

Announcements

- ▶ “Green Days” at the Oak Park farmers market: Saturdays May 20 and May 27. Many sustainability organizations will be represented.
- ▶ Rocky Mountain Institute, a very knowledgeable resource, has recently published a helpful reference about energy transition over the next 5-10 years:
<https://rmi.org/the-energy-transition-in-five-charts-and-not-too-many-numbers/>
- ▶ “Hope is the most important contribution people of faith can and must make as humanity confronts the climate crisis.”
Jim Antal, *Climate Church, Climate World*, 2018, p 157