



For Immediate Release

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Solar Power in Colorado is Going Mainstream

This Year's "Tour of Solar Homes" in Colorado Reveals Going Solar is a Growing Trend

Golden, CO – September 16, 2002 – The Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES) will sponsor the Denver portion of the Colorado Tour of Solar Homes on Saturday, October 5, 2002. This year's tour features a Habitat for Humanity house, the Apex Recreation Center, the Center for Technology and Learning at the Colorado School of Mines, and a wide variety of private residences. The 2002 tour demonstrates that solar power is rapidly gaining mainstream acceptance among Colorado consumers. Reflecting wider trends throughout the nation and the world, our state's homebuyers and builders are increasingly using solar to save money on energy, enhance national security, and protect the environment.

The focus of this year's tour is on how the average consumer can employ solar and energy efficiency in their own homes. In addition to demonstrating cutting edge solar designs, the tour features several retrofitted suburban homes and free workshops by experts on a variety of solar and energy efficiency topics. Visitors will see a diversity of construction techniques and architectural styles on the tour. Dozens of Colorado homes that use energy efficient construction and obtain some of their energy from renewable resources such as solar, wind, and geothermal will be featured.

About Colorado Tour of Solar Homes

The Colorado Tour of Solar Homes takes place on Saturday, October 5 in seven cities throughout the state, including Denver, Boulder, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, Fort Collins, Silverthorne, Durango, and Aspen. It's part of the national Tour of Solar Homes sponsored by CRES' parent organization, the American Solar Energy Society. Last year more than 800 people across Colorado participated in the tour.

Denver Metro Tour Specifics

CRES conducts the tour in the Denver area, focusing this year in Golden, Arvada, and Coal Creek Canyon. The public can arrive between 10am and 4pm at the Visitor's Center of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, in Golden, at 15013 Denver West Parkway near I-70 and Denver West, about a block west of the Marriott Hotel. The cost is \$10 per carload. The solar and energy efficiency workshops are free with tour admission, though space is limited and no reservations are accepted.

About CRES

CRES is the leading statewide organization advocating the economic, social, and environmental benefits of renewable energy and energy efficiency. For more information, please visit our web site at: cres-energy.org.

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