



New Mexico Solar Energy Association

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www.nmsea.org

Promoting Renewable Energy and Sustainability Since 1972

TWO-DAY SOLAR FIESTA SHOWS “IT’S EASY BEING GREEN”

Albuquerque, NM -- “It’s Easy Being Green” is the theme of the 2008 Solar Fiesta, New Mexico’s premier educational fair for energy conservation, renewable energy, and sustainable living. The event, presented by the New Mexico Solar Energy Association (NMSEA), takes place September 20-21 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Highland High School in Albuquerque. The Solar Fiesta offers a wide array of classes for adults, activities for children, and exhibits of products and services that can help save money on energy bills, generate renewable energy, and conserve natural resources.

“More than 2,200 people attended the Solar Fiesta last year. With growing concerns over rising energy prices, we hope many more people will come to learn how easy it is to make the most of their energy dollars by reducing their use, increasing efficiency, and investing in renewable energy,” said Mary McArthur, manager of the NMSEA’s Solar Fiesta.

Both days of the fiesta begin with free workshops at 9:30 a.m. offering easy and inexpensive ways to save money by saving energy. Other workshops will cover topics such as solar electricity, solar heating and cooling, federal and state solar tax credits, green building, water conservation, alternative fuels and vehicles, and more. There will be a special workshop on how to conduct one’s own home energy audit.

For kids, there will be solar car races, a scavenger hunt, exhibits of science projects by local students, and solar oven-baked cookies. For energy and related business professionals, technical workshops will be offered.

The Solar Fiesta exhibits will offer the public the opportunity to see the latest products for energy conservation, renewable energy and green building, find qualified installers and ask questions of professionals in the solar and sustainable industries. Environmental nonprofit organizations will offer information on a wide range of issues impacting New Mexico.

Solar Fiesta organizers are “walking the talk” by minimizing food and beverage container waste at the event. Water in plastic bottles will not be sold, but water will be available for free for attendees who bring their own drinking vessel or buy a reusable NMSEA bottle. Bottles and cans will be recycled. Food vendors will offer organic and vegetarian food. Public transportation, carpooling, or bicycling to the event is encouraged. Highland High School is located at 4700 Coal Ave. SE, two blocks south of Central Avenue’s bus routes and west of San Mateo Boulevard.

Admission to the exhibit grounds is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for students with ID, and free for NMSEA members, children under 12, teachers and PNM employees. PNM customers will find a discount coupon in their bill insert. Workshop costs are \$10 for a single workshop, \$30 for an all-day pass and \$50 for a weekend pass, with discounts for NMSEA members. All-day and weekend passes include admission to exhibits.

Sponsors of the 2008 Solar Fiesta include PNM, the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, UniRac, the City of Albuquerque Facilities and Energy Management Department, Kyocera Solar and Southwest Wind Power.

Founded in 1972, NMSEA is the country’s oldest solar education nonprofit. This is the ninth Solar Fiesta produced by the organization. For more information, visit www.nmsea.org, email info@nmsea.org, or telephone toll-free within New Mexico, 888-886-6765 or in Albuquerque, 505-246-0400.

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