



A project of the Eden Mills Millpond Conservation Association Inc.

Media Release

Reducing our Carbon Footprint

How the Sun Can Power Our Homes

A Free Workshop, Open to the Public

Eden Mills, January 23, 2010...The Eden Mills Going Carbon Neutral project announces a free two hour public workshop on **Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the Eden Mills Community Hall from 1 to 3 pm.** Workshop participants will:

- Learn how you can convert the sun's power to hot water or electricity on your home
- Find out about current grants and incentives which just might make these green technologies one of the best investments you could make
- Lower CO2 emissions while lowering energy bills every month.

The workshop will focus on two major approaches to using solar energy – **solar hot water and photovoltaic collectors.** The workshop is geared to assist homeowners in determining the potential for solar energy use in home hot water heating and electricity generation. Different systems will be described, the critical installation requirements for optimal returns, and the cost/benefit analysis in each case. In the case of PV collectors, the workshop will address issues related to both grid-tied and off-grid systems, including potential financial returns.

The workshop is being coordinated by Charles Simon. Guest expert presenters include Douglas Prest and Steve Dyck.

Douglas Prest is a licensed Professional Electrical Engineer of 28 years of experience who has been involved in the renewable energy field for the past 7 years. Doug is founder and director of SolarG Inc. (formerly CleaNRG), a 3-year-old social purpose company currently specializing in Solar Photovoltaic (Electric) project development. In line with Solar G's social objectives, Doug has served on the board of the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA), which has been instrumental in the implementation of the Green Energy Act in Ontario and the associated Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) program, and is currently on the board of the Positive Power Co-operative, a community organization involved in wind turbine development.


Steve Dyck was bitten by the Solar Thermal bug 12 years ago and is the owner of Guelph Solar Hot Water. Prior to starting this renewable energy business Steve worked as an Industrial Project Manager in engine development for Exova - the home of the National Solar Test facility. Current institutional projects include the Guelph Wellington Hospice and the Loyola House at Ignatius Jesuit Centre. Steve created Guelph Solar Hot Water as a means of applying technical experience and knowledge to facilitate living well while respecting the limits of our environment.

www.goingcarbonneutral.ca

This is the seventh in what is an ongoing series of information sessions designed to help citizens make informed decisions about making changes designed to reduce the production of green house gases, and to build a carbon neutral lifestyle. For full background, please visit www.goingcarbonneutral.ca.

For further information on this workshop, please contact Linda Sword at 519-853-1896.

PSA: Solar Energy Workshop -- How the Sun Can Power Our Homes: Information Workshop, Saturday, January 30 1 – 3 pm, Eden Mills Community Hall, Admission free. 519-853-1896

 Ontario The workshop is supported in part by a grant from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's Community Go Green Fund.