

Subj: Less Than One Month To Go! Solarize Cornish-Plainfield [Week 10]

This email is being sent to you because of your interest in the [Solarize Cornish-Plainfield](#) initiative from Vital Communities. If you'd rather not receive these updates, just let me know and I'll take you off our list.

Solarize Cornish-Plainfield Progress Report

June 30 is the deadline to sign your contract with Solar Source to take advantage of our Solarize discounted pricing. **The last date to request a site visit is June 18.** Visit our [Solarize Cornish-Plainfield website](#) to sign up for a [free site visit](#) from Solar Source, learn about [financing options](#), and learn more about the Solarize program. Our goal is to add 61kW and reach the lowest Tier 4 pricing of \$3.40/Watt – and we're more than halfway there! Remember, **the more households that sign up with Solar Source, the less expensive everyone's system will be.**

More Good News! There are now **8 new PV systems in Cornish and Plainfield** that have been contracted with Solar Source, for a total of **37.665 kW** - that's less than 3.5Kw shy of our **Tier 3 pricing of \$3.55/Watt** - that would be a savings of \$200/kW on roof mount systems installed by Solar Source! For an average 5kW system, your gross cost would be now \$1000 less! If we reach our goal of 61kW, the pricing becomes \$3.40/Watt, or \$1750 less than your Tier 1 cost proposal (for a 5kW system). See the [Solarize pricing chart](#) for the tiered pricing levels and example net costs.

As a real example, Nancy Wightman just had her 3kW system (12 panels) put on her south facing roof. Each day the crew were interrupted by rain so it took 3 days. The electrician was able to install the wiring without spoiling the look of a complex combination of 2 roofs. (It's an L-shaped building.) It was all nicely done and efficiently done. She will be connected with Liberty Utilities this week.



3 more panels to go...



installation complete

The importance of reaching 61 kW is huge for her and the other 7 families signed up with our Solar program. At the time, Nancy was thinking more of the social aspect of renewable energy and had thought that the tiered discount was small in comparison with initial cost of the system. She expected her cost (before rebates and incentives) of her 3 kW system to be \$11,250. If we get to tier 4, her cost will be \$10,200 - a significant savings of \$1,050! Your savings will be proportional to the size of your system.

Nancy encourages you to contact her and she can share her experience going through this process first hand. We will be arranging an Open House at Nancy's before the end of the month.

By the Numbers

- **37.665 kW** contracted with Solar Source; we are now at Tier 2 pricing of \$3.65/W; 3.5kW away from Tier 3 pricing of 3.55/W
- **135** site visits requested (1 new request this week)
- **112** site visits completed
- **93** pending proposals
- **3 weeks left** in our [Solarize Cornish-Plainfield](#) initiative, so if you know someone who may be interested please pass along this email and have them contact [me](#).

Last Week's Solar Open Houses

There were **2 off-grid** solar installations open houses last week...

Christina and Jeff Plant. The Plant home is a two bedroom timber frame house that is heated primarily with wood and a direct vented propane wall heater in the basement. They are a stand-alone off grid site with eight 220 watt pole mounted panels and battery storage with a propane generator for backup. It is a 24 volt system recently upgraded by Kim Quirk of Energy Emporium in Enfield, NH.

Bill Cable and Mary Boyle. Bill and Mary are also off grid and self sustaining. They are among the very early adopters of alternative energy production. Here are some of the highlights of their system:

- started using present system in spring of 2009; fully operational by the end of that year
- 7.2 KW grid-tie ground mount PV system with battery backup
- originally included a 2 KW wind turbine found to be incompatible with present system
- owner-built using a licensed electrician doing all the electrical work (Emily Electric)
- 9 arrays with four 200 watt panels (36 panels) with 3 sets of 12 panels wired to three 60 amp MTTP controllers which are connected to 4 Rolls Surette 12V (500 AH) batteries
- connected in series for a 48V system which is connected to two ganged Xantrex (Schneider) 6KW grid-tie inverters
- site located on north side of hill: trees on the east and west so not ideal
- one unique design feature: 9 arrays pivot so they can be set vertical during the snow season, i.e. never have snow accumulation; summer tilt is almost horizontal to get max. summer sun
- system in operation 4+ years: produced about 30,000 KWH and used 15,000 KWH; excess 15,000 KWH is stored in the grid; meter has run backwards that amount.

In order to use some of their excess electricity, they recently bought a used 2013 all-electric Nissan Leaf and a 2012 Zero XU Motorcycle; installed a Level 2 charging station for the Leaf. For most of the year their local driving will be done using just their own electricity. Bill built a dehumidifier wood kiln to dry lumber. That puts a lot of excess electricity to good use. There are other ongoing solar and other projects that may be of interest, so please drop by!

In 1978 Bill and Mary started out without any electricity and by 1995 worked their way up to an off-grid one kW photovoltaic system with a small wind turbine. When the price of solar panels dropped to \$3/watt in 2009 they put in their current large system. Solar panels are now less than \$1/watt so it's quite the bargain!

Contact Bill Cable for more information at 603.252.2959 or billxcable@gmail.com

Five people attended this open house and all were people who had already attended other events, but wanted to see Bill and Mary's PV and wind installation and share experiences with alternate energy.

Thanks, Bill, Jeff and Christina for showing how you use alternative energy.

And of course, we're here for you if you need us, so let us know how we can help.

- Your Solarize Cornish-Plainfield Volunteer Team