



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, January 24, 2019

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“Solarize Middle Georgia” Workshop and Information Session – Tuesday, February 19th

Roberta, GA – Middle Georgia residents will soon have a new option to power their homes and businesses. The coalition for [Solarize Middle Georgia](#) is holding a **workshop and information session for Crawford County farmers and residents on Tuesday, Feb. 19th at the Crawford County Government Complex, 640 GA Hwy 128, Roberta, GA 31078 from 5:00PM – 6:30PM.** Residents of Crawford County, including Knoxville, Musella, and Roberta are invited to attend. Also, the cities of Salem, Culloden and Lizella are nearby and welcome. **Solarize Middle Georgia** runs for six months, through April 30, 2019.

Solarize Middle Georgia is a public awareness campaign to learn about solar opportunities that didn't exist until recently. This includes an opportunity for a free solar assessment on your home or business, and a way to potentially save money on your utility bills. There is absolutely no financial obligation or requirement to purchase a solar system. Should a family or business decide to go solar, what Solarize Middle Georgia offers is bulk-purchasing power, in addition to the 30% federal tax credit, that will begin to phase out after 2019. The bulk-purchase model offers residents additional savings over those who install outside of the solarize program.

Solarize Middle Georgia is the first Solarize campaign in Georgia to span an entire region, including eleven counties, and 31 municipalities surrounding Macon and Warner Robins. Prior campaigns have reached out to one city and/or one city and county.

Paul Chapman, Chairman, County Commissioners for Crawford County, understands these trends, “Solar is an investment not only for today, but for our future.” He continues, “The money we invest today should pay higher dividends in the future as electrical costs will continue to rise.”

“Georgia ranks #10 in the nation, sums up **Fabian Hollis, County Manager for Crawford County.** He continues, “Let's move it up to Number #1. Solar is our future.”

Ray Clark, Senior Advisor to the elected officials of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition (MGCAC) adds, “**Solarize Middle Georgia** is an important partner to MGCAC. While counties and municipalities in the coalition make significant contributions to improving air quality in the region, **Solarize Middle Georgia** is unique in that it offers every single household in Middle Georgia an opportunity to play a role in reducing air pollution.

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Georgia ranks 10th in the nation for installed solar capacity but most of the energy we use in our homes still comes from coal, gas and nuclear power plants. Community Solarize programs are working to change that. Prior Solarize programs include Tybee Island, Savannah, Athens, Decatur/DeKalb, Dunwoody, Atlanta, Carroll-Carrollton, and Newton-Morgan. Over half of the rooftop solar capacity in Georgia has been generated through Solarize programs. Solarize campaigns are supported by the [U. S. Department of Energy](#).

Additional public meetings, workshops and lunch and learn opportunities will be held throughout the campaign. The schedule of meetings and workshops is being developed and will be publicized at the **Solarize Middle Georgia** website: <https://bit.ly/2CxutBo> and through social & traditional media channels.

Creative Solar USA, Inc. (Creative Solar), based in Kennesaw, Georgia was selected to be the solar installer by the Solarize coalition, including the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition. Founded in 2008, Creative Solar is a turn-key provider of solar power and related energy management services for the residential and commercial sectors. Creative Solar begins with a feasibility assessment and ends with interconnection to the grid. Creative Solar was the chosen residential installer for Solarize Decatur-DeKalb, Atlanta and Carrollton-Carroll. Creative Solar has completed over 400 residential installations totaling almost 2,900 KW (2.9 MW), and 47 commercial installations totaling over 6,500 KW (6.5 MW) with more being installed daily.

The coalition for **Solarize Middle Georgia** includes the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition (MGCAC), Jones County, Georgia, Environment Georgia, Georgia Interfaith Power and Light, U.S. Green Building Council and Solar Crowdsourc.

Additional partners or “Ambassadors” for **Solarize Middle Georgia** include Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful, NewTown Macon, Altamaha Riverkeeper, Redeeming Hope Center, a ministry of Awakening Fires Church (Macon), Georgia House of Representative Patty Bentley (Dist. 139), The Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce, the Forsyth-Monroe County Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, the Hawkinsville – Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce, The Milledgeville-Baldwin County Chamber of Commerce, Perry Area Chamber of Commerce, Roberta- Crawford County Chamber of Commerce and Twiggs County Development Authority and the Twiggs County Chamber of Commerce.

Solarize Middle Georgia: <https://bit.ly/2CxutBo>

Solarize Active Campaigns: <https://bit.ly/2OdA1mK>

Solarize Inactive Campaigns: <https://bit.ly/2NBZXLL>

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