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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 21, 2010

# Solar Tour to showcase energy security and self-reliance

**When:** Saturday, Oct. 2, 2010, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

**Where:** Eight different locations across Kitsap County (See chart below)

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND** –Community Energy Solutions will conduct its fifth annual Solar Tour of Kitsap County on Saturday, Oct. 2, in collaboration with the American Solar Energy Society’s National Solar Tour.

This year’s Solar Tour will give people a first-hand look at how they can become more self-reliant in meeting their home energy needs and how they can strengthen the energy security of their community through renewable energy and energy efficiency. In particular, it will provide answers to the following questions:

- Can the sun power your home and move your car?
- How does a single Mom afford to give all five of her children warm baths?
- Can an energy audit of your home save you money?
- And, who holds the keys to the Community Solar garden?

Tour ticket costs are \$15 per person or \$25 per family. **All proceeds will go towards putting a solar thermal system at a Habitat for Humanity home.** To purchase tickets in advance please go to the Community Energy Solutions website, [www.cenergysolutions.org](http://www.cenergysolutions.org), and click on the *Donate Now* button. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the Tour at the Kickoff site (site A), The Discovery Center (site B) and the Stephens House (Site C). See details of tour sites on page 2 below.



Dual axis solar energy tracking system at the Sawitzki residence in Poulsbo

Community Energy Solutions is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization  
221 Winslow Way West, #301, Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110  
206-261-5259 [www.cenergysolutions.org](http://www.cenergysolutions.org)

|     |  |  |                        |
|-----|--|--|------------------------|
| A)* | <b>Tour Kickoff</b><br>Habitat for Humanity Site   | 18528 4th Ave NE,<br>Suquamish, WA 98392                       | 9:30 am to<br>10:30 am |
| B)* | <b>Tour Hub</b><br>The Discovery Center<br>Tickets & tour info,<br>Presentations & discussions                             | Highway 305 & Winslow<br>Way E, Bainbridge<br>Island, WA 98110 | 9:30 am to 4:00<br>pm  |
| C)* | <b>BI Special Needs Foundation</b><br>The Stephens House<br>Professional energy audit of circa<br>1910 building            | 191 Winslow Way W,<br>Bainbridge Island, WA<br>98110           | 11 am to 2 pm          |
| D)  | <b>Beemer Residence</b><br>4 kilowatt (kW) solar energy<br>system, electric car and energy<br>efficiency features          | 6670 Arrow Point Dr<br>NE, Bainbridge Island,<br>WA 98110      | 10 am to 3 pm          |
| E)  | <b>Bray Residence</b><br>3.3 kW solar energy system  | 8506 Grand Ave. NE,<br>Bainbridge Island, WA<br>98110          | 10 am to 3 pm          |
| F)  | <b>Chiropractic Lifestyle Clinic</b><br>4 kW solar energy system, solar<br>hot water system and green<br>building features | 991 NE Riddell Road,<br>Bremerton, WA 98310                    | 10 am to 3 pm          |
| G)  | <b>Sawitzki and DuPont<br/>Residence</b><br>Unique 2.5 kW solar tracking<br>system   | 1450 Hudson NE,<br>Poulsbo, WA 98370                           | 10 am to 3 pm          |
| H)  | <b>Loerch and Faulkner<br/>Residence</b><br>4.5kW solar energy system and<br>solar hot water system                        | 7732 Westerly Lane NE<br>Bainbridge Island                     | 10 am to 3 pm          |

The Solar Tour's kickoff will be at the future home site of a Habitat for Humanity recipient in Suquamish. Community Energy Solutions is launching a fundraising campaign to place a solar hot water system there. This is the second collaborative project between Community Energy Solutions and Habitat for Humanity of Kitsap County. In March 2010, Felicia Oliver-Johnson and her young family moved into a Habitat-built home with a solar water heating system provided by Community Energy Solutions. "Not only was this a successful partnership between Habitat for Humanity and Community Energy Solutions, but a family is benefiting from reduced energy costs for many years to come," said Lori Oberlander, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Kitsap County.

The Tour will also showcase a full energy audit taking place at the Stephens House in Winslow. The Discovery Center in Winslow will have presentations in the afternoon. And, people will have the opportunity to vote on where in Kitsap County they would put a Community Solar project.

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For further details, please contact Joe Deets, Kitsap County Solar Tour coordinator, at 206-855-4893. A map of the Tour is available at the Community Energy Solutions website at [www.cenergysolutions.org](http://www.cenergysolutions.org) and the Habitat for Humanity for Kitsap County website at [www.kitsaphabitat.org](http://www.kitsaphabitat.org)

#### **About Community Energy Solutions**

Community Energy Solutions is a privately funded, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to advancing clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions. We achieved this mission by being innovative yet practical; working with individuals, organizations, and governments interested in bolstering self-reliance and strengthening the community.

#### **About Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity of Kitsap County (HFH-KC) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit ecumenical Christian housing ministry affiliated with Habitat for Humanity International. A primarily volunteer based, people-to-people organization, we offer families a “hand up” versus a “hand out”, working in partnership with low and very low-income families to build affordable homes. Through volunteer labor and tax-deductable donations of money and materials, HFH-KC builds simple, decent houses with the help of homeowner (partner) families and community.

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