



NEWS RELEASE

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Morrisville State College to Host Free Solar Energy Workshop for Homeowners, Small Businesses, Farmers Nov. 1

MORRISVILLE, N.Y. —Small-scale solar projects and their potential economic and renewable energy viability for homeowners, farmers and small businesses will be the topic of a free workshop Nov. 1 at Morrisville State College.

The workshop, which will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in the John W. Stewart Center for Student Activities (STUAC) little theater, is to help homeowners, farmers and businesses assess the potential costs and benefits of small-scale solar energy projects and to help create more local interest in developing local industries and local jobs for sustainable renewable energy resource development in Madison County.

The program will include presentations by Linda Ochs, a resident of the Town of Waterloo, who will discuss solar photovoltaics she had installed for her home several years ago, and Jeremiah Schmidt, of Solar Liberty, who will talk about solar energy systems and solar resources in Central New York.

Schmidt will also discuss incentives and local, state and federal tax breaks that are available for small solar development and other renewable resources. Displays of solar energy vendors will be available.

The workshop is co-sponsored by Morrisville State College's Renewable Energy Training Center (RETC), the Workforce Investment Board of Herkimer, Madison and Oneida Counties, the Fenner Renewable Energy Education (FREE) Center, Madison County ad hoc Committee on Energy and the Madison County IDA.

Registration is not required. For more information, contact Ben Ballard, RETC director, at 315-684-6780 or e-mail him at ballarbd@morrisville.edu. For more information about the RETC at Morrisville State College, visit <http://retc.morrisville.edu>.

Morrisville State College offers more than 75 bachelor and associate degrees. Considered to be one of the most technologically advanced colleges in the nation for its ThinkPad University program and wireless technology initiative, the college recently became the first in the nation to comprehensively replace landlines in residence halls with individual cellular phones. Morrisville State College was also chosen as one of the top five colleges in the nation for campus activities by *Campus Activities* magazine.

The Morrisville State College Norwich Campus offers associate degree programs in accounting, business, computer systems technology, office administration, liberal arts transfer, nursing, early childhood, criminal justice and human services to south central New York residents and employers. Students may also apply coursework to other associate or bachelor degrees at the main campus.