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Solar Co-op to host info session

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ELKINS - The Tucker/Randolph Solar Co-op is holding an information session on Wednesday to educate the public about solar energy and recruit new members.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church, located at 450 Randolph Ave. in Elkins. The group is working with WV SUN and is sponsored by the Tucker County Renewables

Cooperative.

By going solar together as a group, the co-op gets a discount through its bulk purchasing power, saving an average of 20 percent compared to the cost of an individual installation. The co-op solicits competitive bids from local installers in order to get the most competitive pricing. The group then reviews bids with the help of WV SUN in an installer-neutral process. This ensures co-op members get quality systems from experienced contractors.

"As a resident of Elkins, I'm excited about the idea of going solar and so is my family," Katy McClane, an organizer of the meeting, said. "The solar co-op makes this an even more affordable and feasible option for us."

Co-op members each get an individualized proposal for their home that reflects the group discount. Each co-op member can then decide to go solar based upon this individualized proposal. There is no obligation to buy.

WV SUN expands access to solar by educating West Virginia residents about the benefits of distributed solar energy, helping them organize group solar installations and strengthening West Virginia's solar policies and its community of solar supporters.

The group has helped half a dozen West Virginia communities start solar co-ops.

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