

NEWS

For Immediate Release
Amanda Thompson
503.548.1598

amanda.thompson@energytrust.org

March 1, 2024

Energy Trust of Oregon Launches Solarize in Hillsboro and Cornelius, Offering Discounts and Incentives to Help Homeowners Add Solar

In addition to exclusive, limited-time discounts and incentives, homeowners may also qualify for a state rebate and a 30% federal tax credit that can further lower costs for solar and battery storage

PORTLAND, Ore. — In partnership with the City of Hillsboro, the City of Cornelius, and [Solar Oregon, Energy Trust of Oregon](#), a nonprofit that helps connect people and organizations to renewable energy and energy efficiency upgrades, is offering discounts and cash incentives to homeowners in Hillsboro and Cornelius looking to add solar and battery storage to their homes.

The two-month campaign known as [Solarize](#) runs from March 1 through April 30 and is aimed at helping homeowners lower their energy bills by making it easier and more affordable to install solar and battery storage. The discounts and incentives offered can vary depending on a home's size and energy needs, but combined with available tax credits, families could save as much as \$15,000 on the cost of installing solar and storage. Savings could reach as much as \$25,000 for individuals and families with lower incomes who are eligible for larger tax credits and larger Energy Trust incentives.

"We're hopeful this campaign helps bring the benefits of solar energy to more people in Hillsboro and Cornelius," said Jeni Hall, program strategies manager at Energy Trust. "Along with significantly lowering your electricity bills with solar, adding a battery to store solar energy means you have backup power for selected rooms and appliances during an outage – giving families peace of mind."

Energy Trust has helped add solar to more than 25,000 homes and businesses over the past 20 years, allowing Oregonians to shrink energy bills, reduce their overall environmental impact, and help Oregon reach its energy goals.

"Adding more local renewable energy is a key piece of our work to create a sustainable future for Hillsboro," said Robin Straughan, Sustainability and Resiliency Manager for the City of Hillsboro. "This partnership with Energy Trust and the Solarize campaign is one way we're working to reduce barriers to adding solar in our community."

Solar Oregon, a nonprofit organization that helps educate communities on solar energy, will host free Solarize educational workshops on the following dates:

- Thursday, March 21, 12:00-1:00 p.m. (Virtual)
- Tuesday, April 2, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Online (Virtual)
- Thursday, April 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m. (In person) at Hillsboro Brookwood Library
 - *Links to the workshops can be found at energytrust.org/solarize-hc*

For Spanish-speaking families and individuals, the organizations Adelante Mujeres and Centro Cultural will host a solar education workshop in Spanish on

- Saturday, April 20, 12-2 p.m. at Centro Cultural Cornelius (1110 N Adair Street)

“Solar should be available to everyone, so we encourage anyone in our community interested in learning how solar might work for their families to join us at the workshop,” said Verónica Núñez, Leadership and Advocacy Director for Adelante Mujeres. “We will have Spanish-speaking experts to provide information and answer any questions about the process and the benefits of having solar and battery storage at home.”

To participate in the program, homeowners can fill out a bid request form at energytrust.org/solarize-hc by April 30. The solar installation must be completed by Dec. 31, 2024.

Anyone outside of the cities of Hillsboro or Cornelius can learn about the solar and storage incentives available to them and request a free bid at enregytrust.org/solar. To help more people benefit from solar, Energy Trust also offers higher incentives for households with lower incomes. All homeowners adding solar may qualify for a [state rebate](#) and a 30% [federal tax credit](#), which can be used with Energy Trust incentives.

For more information on Solar + Storage visit:

- [Solar + Storage Means Peace of Mind](#)
- [Solar + Storage for Homes](#)
- [Solar Within Reach](#)

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers and communities save energy and benefit from renewable power. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista save \$5.3 billion on energy bills while avoiding 19.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, the equivalent of removing more than 4.5 million cars for the road for a year. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs, supports resilient communities and helps ensure a more sustainable energy future. Learn more at www.energytrust.org or call 1-866-368-7878.

END