U.S. Department of Energy launches Solar Decathlon

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From Sept. 23-Oct. 2, the U.S. Department of Energy will hold the DOE Solar Decathlon 2011, an award-winning program that challenges 20 college teams to design, build and operate solar-powered houses. The houses are cost-effective and energy-efficient, and the event educates participants and the greater public about the beneficial opportunities that clean-energy products can offer. The winner of the competition is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency.

Once again, USGBC is a proud sponsor of the decathlon with several staff volunteering throughout the week and providing guidance and expertise. The Center for Green Schools' USGBC Students program will also be hosting a reception for the student participants on Sept. 24.

This year's Solar Decathlon will take place on the National Mall's West Potomac Park in Washington, DC. Open to the public free of charge, the Solar Decathlon enables visitors to tour the houses, gather ideas to use in their own homes and learn how energy-saving features can help them save money today.

This is a great way to gain awareness of solar advancements being made in homes. We encourage you all to attend and volunteer! DOE is recruiting greeters, docents, runners, solar experts, special event and walking route assistants, mentors and others to help out at this great event. You can visit the Solar Decathlon website to find out more information about attending or volunteering: http://www.solardecathlon.gov/. We hope to see you there!

Sarah Atkins
Program Coordinator

Member employees

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