

Save energy and money with FPL rebates on solar panels

Sarasota County officials are encouraging local Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) customers to take advantage of limited-time rebates on energy-saving photovoltaic solar panels. FPL is offering an annual total of \$15.5 million in rebates under five programs. Applications will be accepted for each program up to that program's funding limit.

Home and business owners can apply online through their FPL account beginning the morning of June 21. Applicants must have a complete quote in hand and be logged into their account on the FPL website to complete the application. Funds are expected to go fast, so residents should act now to prepare and apply early.

The FPL rebate program complements Sarasota County's very successful Get Energy Smart Retrofit Program, which provides rebates for energy improvements made to existing homes. So far, the program has resulted in more than \$3 million dollars worth of energy-saving improvements made to local homes.

The five FPL rebate programs are:

- Residential Solar Water Heating – Customers may get a one-time rebate of \$1,000 for installing a solar water heating system
- Residential PV – Customers may get a one-time rebate of \$2 per watt of the DC rating of the solar panels, up to \$20,000.
- Solar Low-Income New Construction Program (Solar LINC) – This is a partnership with not-for-profit low-income-housing builders to install solar water heaters in low-income housing units
- Business Solar Water Heating – This is a variable one-time rebate based on the size of the system installed, up to a maximum of \$50,000 per property. Customers with multiple properties can receive a maximum combined rebate of up to \$150,000 per funding year.
- Business Photovoltaic (PV) – This is a variable one-time rebate depending on the DC rating of the solar panels, up to a maximum of \$50,000 per property. Customers with multiple properties can receive a maximum combined rebate of up to \$150,000 per funding year.

According to FPL, leftover funds in any of the programs will be used to allow for additional rebate opportunities this summer. Applications for the 2012 portion of the program will be available on Oct. 3, 2011, on the FPL web site.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit www.FPL.com/solarrebates.

Safety tips offered on preventing heat stress and strokes

Safety tips offered on preventing heat stress and strokes. With the seasonal high temperatures, anyone can become overheated on or off the beach. Heat stress or stroke is a life-threatening situation and help is needed fast.

Scott Montgomery, manager of Lifeguard Operations, offers these safety tips to help prevent heat stress or strokes:

- Slow down and avoid strenuous activity.
- Stay indoors as much as possible and out of the sun.
- Drink plenty of water often.
- Avoid alcohol and caffeine because they can intensify the heat's effect on your body.
- Eat small meals and eat more often.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Never leave children or pets in the car, even with the windows down.

Signs of heat stress or stroke include nausea, vomiting, fatigue, weakness, headaches and dizziness.

If you suspect someone has heat stress or stroke:

- Call 911; if on the beach, inform a lifeguard.
- Move the person to a cooler place or under a beach umbrella to provide shade.
- Quickly cool the body by immersing victim in a cool bath, or wrapping wet sheets around the body and fan it. If there is cramping, lightly stretch the affected muscle and replenish fluids. Give a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes.
- Watch for signals of breathing problems.
- If the victim refuses water, or is vomiting or has changes in the level of consciousness, do not give the person anything to eat or drink.

For more information, contact the Sarasota Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit the Sarasota County website, www.scgov.net, keyword All Hazards.

CGHA board announces new prices for advertising within Newsletter. Please contact the secretary Lori Rinker via email at rinkld@aol.com for more information.

Business card - \$5.00/month
Quarter page - \$10.00/month
Half page - \$15.00/month
Full page insert - \$30.00/month

Newsletter Submissions

All articles, ads, and payments must be submitted by the 15th of each month. You can submit articles through the website or email rinkld@aol.com

Volunteering

Currently there is a need for newsletter delivery for the following areas, Sharondale, Winderwood and Brookmeade Drive area. This is a once a month volunteer duty and requires about 45 minutes of your time each month. For a high school student, this could serve as required community service hours. Contact Lori Rinker.

Most county offices to close for Independence Day, July 4

Most Sarasota County government offices, libraries, recreation centers and transit services will be closed Monday, July 4, to observe the national Independence Day holiday. However, Payne Park Tennis Center will be open from 7:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. and the Arlington Park Recreation Center will be open from noon-5 p.m.

- Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) will **not** operate on July 4.
- Garbage, recycling and yard waste collection schedules for the July 4 holiday will be **delayed** one day, with collection happening on the day after the regularly scheduled day.
- The landfill at 4010 Knights Trail Road in Nokomis and Sarasota County's Chemical Collection Centers at 8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota, and 250 S. Jackson Road, Venice, will be **closed** on Monday, July 4.

For more information about July 4 holiday schedules, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.



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Colonial Gables News

July 2011 Edition



Colonial Gables Special Meeting

When: Tuesday,
July 19, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.
Where: Colonial Oaks Park
5300 Colonial Oaks Park – Room C
Why: To discuss the budget,
purchase of Board insurance and
bids for the Woodmont sprinkler
installation

Colonial Gables Block Party

When: Sunday, July 10, 2011
11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Where: Cedarwood Drive

Bring a covered dish and Join your neighbors for some fun and banter. Ice and water will be made available.

Have the kids decorate their bikes for a parade ride.

Colonial Gables
Homeowners Association
Founded 1980

GENERAL MEETINGS

Colonial Oaks Park –
5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd
Sarasota 34232
Room C

July 19, 2011
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

~President~
Nicholas Mavrikas
NickMavrikas@verizon.net
232-8710

~ Vice President ~
Casey Martin
PamperedMovers@aol.com

~Treasurer~
Lori Rinker
rinkld@aol.com

~Secretary~
Lori Rinker
rinkld@aol.com

~Newsletter~
Needs a new volunteer

WEB SITE
www.colonialgablesnews.net
Ivonne and Sean Malo
colonialgables@yahoo.com