



### The California Fair Solar System: 26 Fairs Look to the Sun for Energy

Reducing greenhouse gasses isn't something most people connect with fairs, better known for food on a stick, hair-raising carnival rides and farm animals. But, with 26 fairgrounds generating their own solar power and 16 more scheduled to join them, California's fairs are also one of the world's largest nonutility producers of solar power. And no one knows this better

than Tom Baker, CEO of the California Construction Authority (CCA), the agency that's played a key role in the fairs' solar endeavors.

The first fairground to invest in photovoltaic (solar) panels, was Cal Expo in 2001. Since then, fairgrounds large and small have joined in. A fairground's suitability for solar, Tom explains, is determined by its electric rate (how much is paid per kilowatt hour) and location. Fairs in areas prone to fog and rain, for instance, or heavily shaded by trees, aren't good candidates for obvious reasons – not enough sun.

CCA's role in a fair's solarization begins early with the job of determining the appropriate size of solar system needed. CCA also arranges for grant money and additional financing, designs and builds the system, and handles all paperwork.

Energy generated annually by the 26 fairs adds up to more than 14,917,887 kilowatt hours and nearly \$2,500,000 in energy savings. Overall installation costs came to \$43,845,332, with \$24,550,054 covered by grants. In addition, all fairs participate in the "net metering" program by selling energy back to the power company for use by the community.

To find out if your fair would be a good candidate for a solar project or if you have questions about financing opportunities, please contact Tom Baker at 916/263-6119.

### F & E's Green Team to Research Environmentally Responsible Projects and Funding Resources

The Division of Fairs and Expositions (F & E), under the guidance of Director Mike Treacy, has taken Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's call to environmental stewardship and action to heart.

F & E's long-standing commitment to strengthen and support California fairs' relevance to their communities, both individually and collectively, extends to helping the fairs find meaningful ways to be environmental stewards.

To that end, Director Treacy has assigned a Green Team

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### Tips from CFSA's Computer Expert Helps Ensure You Won't Get Hooked by Internet Phishing

*The IRS may have an unclaimed refund for you!  
E-bay must confirm your account!  
PayPal is suspending your account!  
Every relative and friend you have has sent you a postcard!*

You've probably seen these and other messages in your e-mail in box. Hopefully you've realized that a rich man in Nigeria doesn't really want to give you money and that you don't have an account at Wa Mu. As CFSA information systems specialist Mike Johnson points out, phishing scams, unfortunately, are easy to spread in the unregulated world of e-mail.

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### Go on an Adventure-a-Month with Western Fairs

WFA has summer covered with three big events heading your way. First up is the Annual Open House Reception at the California State Fair on Thursday, August 23 from 5 to 7 p.m. Join your friends in the Clubhouse of Cal Expo's Satellite Wagering Facility.

Accompanying meetings, also on Thursday, include a Service Member Meeting at 9 a.m. (in the Cal Expo Board Room), a Professional Development Committee Meeting at 10 a.m. (to be held at the WFA offices), a Board and Finance Meeting at 1 p.m. (in Cal Expo's Board Room), and a CFA Board Meeting at 3:30 p.m. (also in Cal Expo's Board Room).

Craving an out-of-state

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### In Memory Joseph Pierog, Long-Time F & E Civil Engineer

Joe Pierog, 68, of Sacramento, passed away on July 12. Remembered as an "all-around friendly guy" dedicated to his job, Joe was part of F & E's Engineering team for 33 years, with more than 10 of those years spent working out of CCA's offices.

A model train enthusiast

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### Employee Right-to-Know Poster Update is Free

Due to the mid-year change in the Federal minimum wage, you'll need to update your 2007 Employee Right-to-Know poster. No purchase necessary! Just log onto [www.hrcalifornia.com](http://www.hrcalifornia.com). On the right hand side of the page, under "Alerts," click on "Federal Minimum Wage Poster" and print out the updated 2007 information. Cailee DeFoe, CFSA's buyer, emphasizes that

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"Maybe, just once, someone will call me 'sir' without adding, 'you're making a scene.'  
~ Homer Simpson



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Let's hear from you!  
Contact fyi at:  
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[www.cfssa.org](http://www.cfssa.org)

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"Anyone who thinks the art of conversation is dead ought to tell a child to go to bed."

~ Robert Gallagher

# fyi

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## Did You Know?

- ENERGY SAVED FROM ONE RECYCLED ALUMINUM CAN WILL OPERATE A TV SET FOR THREE HOURS AND IS THE EQUIVALENT TO HALF A CAN OF GASOLINE.
- GLASS PRODUCED FROM RECYCLED GLASS INSTEAD OF RAW MATERIALS REDUCES RELATED AIR POLLUTION BY 20% AND WATER POLLUTION BY 50%.
- REPLACING EVERY 75 WATT LIGHT BULB WITH AN ENERGY EFFICIENT BULB WILL PREVENT ONE TON OF CARBON DIOXIDE FROM BEING RELEASED INTO THE AIR.

## F & E's Green Team, continued

within the F & E staff to research environmental programs and projects that fairs can adapt and adopt to meet their specific needs and circumstances. This solution-oriented project is looking at numerous subject areas, including construction, water, air quality, recycling and energy efficiency that can be mined for individual programs and used at fair facilities.

The Green Team is researching grants that are available for green building projects, energy efficiency and recycling, with the goal of providing fairs with a list of possible projects and financial resources to fund them.

Members of the team have met with various representatives from State and Local government, including major utility companies, who can provide insight on energy efficiency programs and grants.

Selected F & E employees are also being trained in grant writing to provide assistance to fairs for future grant application processes. The Green Team Vision is to see California's fairs as leaders in environmental stewardship.

## Internet Phishing, continued

"Phishing" refers to the imitation of a company's branding (logo, colors, format, etc.) in e-mail messages and Web sites, created with the intent of fooling people into divulging personal information such as passwords, credit card numbers, PINs, etc. Phishing e-mails and Web sites may also contain links that can trigger the download and installation of dangerous viruses. Fortunately, you can detect e-mail scams yourself. Here's what to look for:

### Asking for Too Much Information

No one, especially not your bank or credit card company will ask for your password, social security number or credit card information in an e-mail. They already have that information.

### Not Giving You Enough Information

Is the e-mail addressed to you in the body of the e-mail? Does it give dates and other information that verify it's not a random e-mail?

### Return e-mail Address

Check the return e-mail address. Remember that the displayed return address should be the same as the address you're replying to. To verify the address you're actually sending to, click "Reply" and highlight the e-mail address in the "To" area. Right click on the highlighted area and select "Properties" in the pop-up menu. This tells you the address your e-mail is being sent to. If they don't match, don't reply.

### Links to Web Sites in the e-mail

Check to make sure the text link (to a new Web site) is the true address. The link could say, for example, [www.PayPal.com](http://www.PayPal.com), but take you to [www.scamsite.com](http://www.scamsite.com). Hold the mouse cursor over the link until the actual address is displayed.

### If It Sounds Too Good to Be True ... It probably is!

ALWAYS use a good antivirus program. Programs such as Symantec or McAfee include SPAM and spyware detection. Be sure to purchase the update subscription!

### NEVER Open a Link when You Don't Know the Sender

Instead, reply to the message and ask for clarification.

### NEVER Open an e-mail Link that Only has an IP Address

A legitimate link would be something like: "cards.egreetings.com," not all numbers: "88.xxx.xxx.xxx." This particular address identifies a computer somewhere in the Netherlands.

## WFA Events, continued

travel escape? You'll like the two WFA has to offer. Join colleagues in Puyallup at the Western Washington Fair on September 20 for a 5 p.m. Open House Reception and stay after to catch a live performance with the Steve Miller Band!

The truest of adventure-seekers will want to head south of the border for WFA's October 5 to 7 whirlwind tour of the Fiestas del Sol in Mexicali, Mexico.

For complete tour details and to reserve your spot, go to [www.WesternFairs.org](http://www.WesternFairs.org) or call WFA at 916/927-3100.

## Joe Pierog, con't.

and commercial pilot, Joe graduated from Notre Dame University in 1961 with a BS in Civil Engineering. He then moved to California and served in the United States Air Force until 1964.

Joe began his career at CalTrans and in 1974 transferred to F & E where he was the sole design engineer for a diversity of projects including exhibit and rest room buildings, outdoor stages, roads and parking lots, a swimming pool, and ADA compliancy jobs.

Joe is survived by his wife, Margarete; children, Christine and Andrew; and two grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be sent to the American Cancer Society, [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

## Employee Posters, con't.

there's no need to purchase a new poster. According to the California Chamber of Commerce, a copy of the update posted next to your existing poster keeps you in compliance with the law.

Questions? Call the California Chamber of Commerce, 916/444-6670.