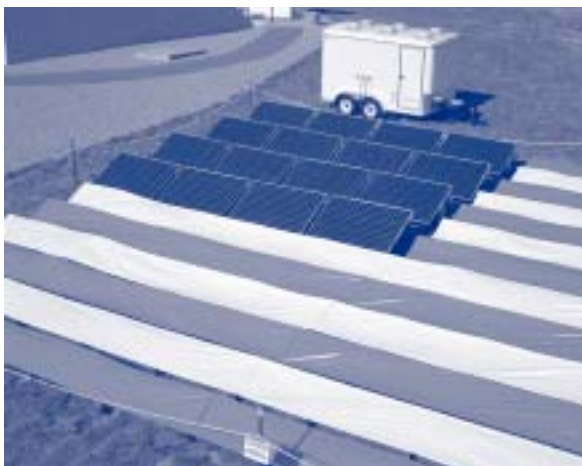
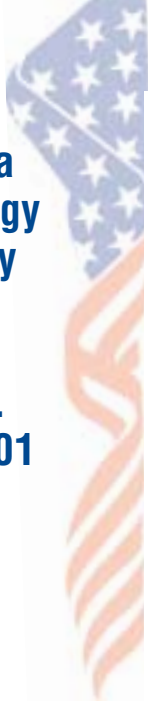


# *Solar* **Independence**



**Empowering America  
with renewable energy  
and energy efficiency  
technologies**

**9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
June 30–July 15, 2001  
Chicago, Illinois**



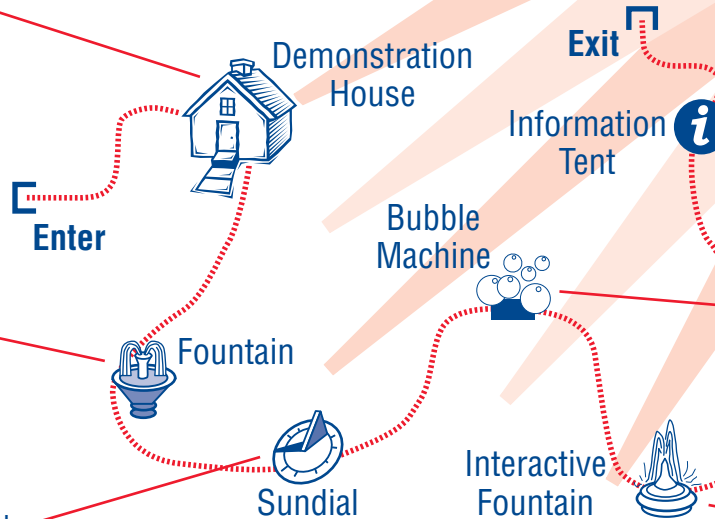
# Solar Independence



The U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Independence exhibit, including spectacular displays, hands-on demonstrations, and interactive tours, will be on display June 30–July 15 at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois.

Solar energy is a proven technology that provides millions of people with affordable power for their homes and businesses. Solar electricity works best when combined with energy-efficient lifestyle choices and building features.

Solar technologies enhance energy-efficient buildings. The **demonstration house** features photovoltaics, south-facing windows and walls for storing solar heat, as well as energy-efficient lights.



Solar energy can provide power for off-shore communication on boats, heat swimming pools, and powers the **fountain**.

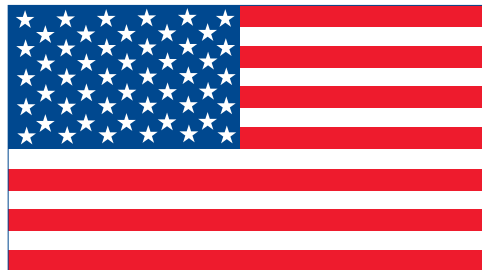
America's schools could save an estimated \$1.5 billion nationally through better building design, energy efficiency, and solar technologies. Find out more about saving energy in your home and school from the energy experts in the **information tent**.

Powered by a small solar panel, the **bubble machine** produces clouds of bubbles.

This **sundial** uses the North Star as a guide, tracking the earth's rotation, and keeps track of time.

Feel the power of solar energy first-hand at the **interactive fountain**. You can shade the fountain's solar panel with your hands and watch what happens.

The sun does not have to be shining for solar power to work. The sun's energy can be stored in battery systems, such as the **battery bank** in this trailer, so that it is available for use anytime, anywhere.



The **American flag display** is made of solar panels that produce enough electricity to power 1–2 average suburban homes.

 Battery Trailer

**For more information:**

**Contact the Energy Efficiency Clearinghouse:**

1-800-DOE-EREC

**Visit our Web site:**

[www.eren.doe.gov/solarindependence](http://www.eren.doe.gov/solarindependence)

**Visit the Museum's Web site:**

[www.msichicago.org/index.html](http://www.msichicago.org/index.html)

**Energy-efficient buildings:**

[www.eren.doe.gov/buildings](http://www.eren.doe.gov/buildings)

**Solar power:**

[www.eren.doe.gov/power](http://www.eren.doe.gov/power)

[www.nrel.gov/photovoltaics.html](http://www.nrel.gov/photovoltaics.html)

**For educators:**

[www.schoolsgoingsolar.org](http://www.schoolsgoingsolar.org)

[www.eren.doe.gov/energysmartschools](http://www.eren.doe.gov/energysmartschools)

**For kids:**

[www.eren.doe.gov/kids.html](http://www.eren.doe.gov/kids.html)



U.S. Department of Energy



National Renewable Energy Laboratory

NREL is a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy, operated for DOE by Midwest Research Institute, Battelle and Bechtel

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