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| **Solar PV Manufacturers Encouraged to Partner with Go SOLAR** |
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| |  | | --- | |  |   **DATE:** July 10, 2012 **MEDIA CONTACT**: Jeffrey Halsey, Director, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division **PHONE:** 954-519-1468 **EMAIL:** [jhalsey@broward.org](mailto:jhalsey@broward.org)  Broward County and participating municipalities are seeking to partner with the solar industry in a new federally funded program, [Go SOLAR](http://www.broward.org/GOGREEN/GOSOLAR/Pages/Default.aspx) Broward Rooftop Solar Challenge, to promote the installation of rooftop solar systems for residents and businesses by expediting the permitting process.  Go SOLAR Broward Rooftop Solar Challenge is a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to promote and accelerate process improvements in market conditions for rooftop solar projects. Go SOLAR is part of a nationwide effort to engage local and state governments along with utilities, installers, non-governmental organizations and others to make solar energy more accessible.  The Go SOLAR Broward Rooftop Solar Challenge Team is working to reduce administrative barriers for residential and small commercial solar installations by streamlining and standardizing administrative processes.  Participating cities include Coconut Creek, Dania Beach, Davie, Deerfield Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Hallandale Beach, Hillsboro Beach, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Miramar, North Lauderdale, Oakland Park, Pompano Beach, Sunrise, Tamarac and Unincorporated Broward County.  [Co-sponsorship opportunities now available](http://www.broward.org/PURCHASING/Pages/RequestForInformation.aspx) (click here) through the Purchasing Division website allow interested companies to provide the County with electronic set(s) of photovoltaic solar mounting system design plans that meet the DOE grant program guidelines. In exchange, Broward County will include the company's plans and required equipment list (as submitted under the agreement) as an option on the County's new Go SOLAR online permitting system, scheduled to launch in the fall of 2012.  The online permitting system provides a convenient way for contractors to apply for rooftop solar system permits online and dramatically shortens the permit approval process. Under the terms of the DOE grant, the County will promote the Go SOLAR program to residents and businesses to increase interest in rooftop PV solar system installations.  For more information and to join the Go SOLAR Broward Rooftop Solar Challenge team, visit [broward.org/gogreen/gosolar](http://www.broward.org/GOGREEN/GOSOLAR/Pages/Default.aspx) or email [gosolar@broward.org](mailto:gosolar@broward.org). |
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