



Solar Switch Group Buy

**Sustainability Programs Manager
January 10th, 2024**

Group Buy Solar

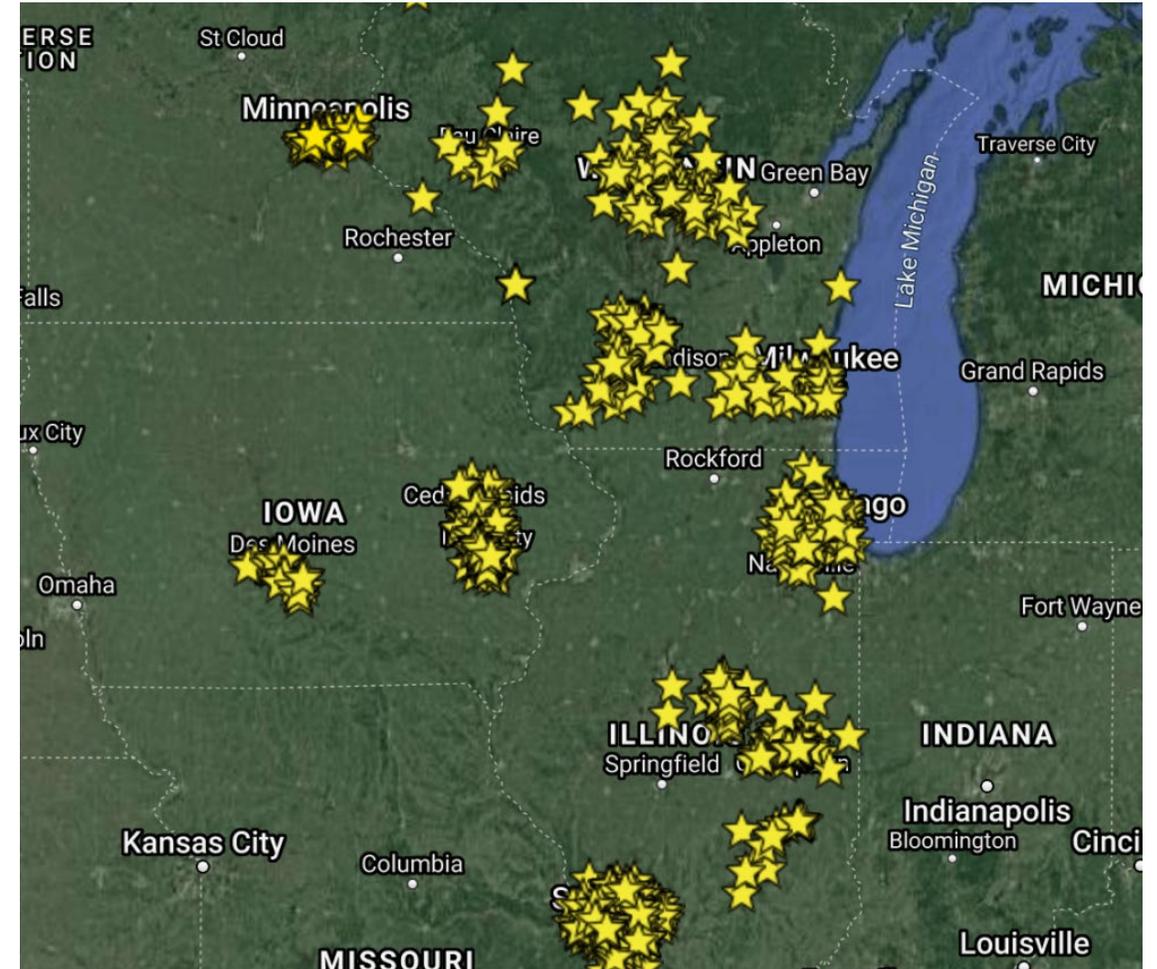
- **A Solar Group Buy program entails volume discounts through competitive selection of a solar installer.**
- **More installations = lower cost for customers**
- **Solar Power Hour educational events cover the basics of solar, financials, property's solar readiness, and how to participate.**



2023 Program Outcomes



- As of December 29th, 2023, 453 residents have registered with the program to learn about their home's solar suitability.
- As of December 29th, 2023, 62 residents have accepted and paid for a solar installation on their home through the program's chosen installers.
- Installations are underway this winter, with 5 already completed.
- Virtual and in person educational events were hosted by MREA and CUB at College of Lake County.



Midwest Renewable Energy Association



- **The Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) is a 501c3 that has facilitated more than 50 Solar Group Buy programs around the Midwest between 2013 and 2021**
- **The Solar Switch program focuses mostly on encouraging residential installation**
- **Lake County residents are already eligible to participate in this program**
- **County Sponsors: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Will**
- **City Sponsors: Chicago, Countryside, and Villa Park**
- **Organization Sponsors:** Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, Palatine Cool Cities Environmental Team, Elgin Sustainability Commission, Sierra Club of Illinois, DuPage Clean Energy Coalition, SAGES of Buffalo Grove, Garfield Ridge Chamber of Commerce, SCARCE, the Conservation Foundation, 350 Chicago, Garfield Park Community Council, Gail Borden Public Library, Maywood Public Library, Northbrook Public Library, and Indian Trails Public Library.

Other Similar Programs



- **There are no other active group buy programs sponsored by Chicagoland communities.**
- **Illinois Solar Energy Association and Illinois Power Agency provide information for residents to find their own installer, developer, or manufacturer.**

- **Committee can choose to pass a resolution of support and endorsement for the 2024 program to be conducted twice per year in the summer and fall**
 - **Send representative to Advisory Committee to oversee program**
 - **Promotion of Solar Switch program**
 - **Newsletters**
 - **Website**
 - **Social Media**
 - **Allow use of logo by MREA**
 - **Allow Solar Power Hour events to be hosted at County facilities or collaborate with community spaces to host events**



Questions