

Welcome to Alice Springs – A Solar City

What is Alice Solar City?

Alice Springs became a Solar City in March 2008. Alice Solar City is part of the Australian Government's Solar Cities program, helping change the way we produce, use and save energy. Our town is one of seven Solar Cities around Australia, with the others located in Adelaide (SA), Blacktown (NSW), Central Victoria, Moreland (VIC), Perth (WA) and Townsville (QLD).

Together we are gathering information that will help the Government find solutions to a number of challenges in delivering sustainable energy outcomes for Australia's towns and cities. Each Solar City is trialing a unique range of energy options, such as energy efficiency measures for homes and business, pricing trials to reward those people who use energy wisely, the use of solar technologies and community education about energy use. The program will run until 2013.

Why did Alice Springs become a Solar City?

Simple. Located in the heart of Australia, and blessed with an abundance of sunshine, Alice Springs is the perfect candidate. There are many benefits in being a Solar City, including decreasing our greenhouse emissions, reducing our impact on the environment, and saving money. Over the six year period we expect to reduce Alice Springs CO₂ emissions by about 12,942 tonnes each year – the equivalent of removing about one in five of all the cars in Alice Springs off the road!



Alice Solar
ENERGY CHAMPIONS City



Did you know?

- Alice Springs receives more solar energy than any other major town in Australia.
- 49% of Alice Springs residents already use solar hot water systems, when the national average stands at less than 10%
- The largest building mounted solar system in the Southern Hemisphere was installed on the rooftop of the Crowne Plaza Hotel in February 2009.
- 30% of residents run their air conditioner for 7-12 hours per day in summer and 25% run it for more than 18 hours. Alice Solar City is helping to show residents how they can make their home more energy efficient so that they use their air-conditioners less.



Australian Government

Solar Cities

Part of the
Australian Government's
Solar Cities Initiative

Large Scale Iconic Projects in Alice Springs

A number of large-scale solar energy projects are being developed around the city, further demonstrating our town's commitment to a sustainable energy future. These include:

- A 305kW 'flat plate' solar system with 1300 solar panels at Crowne Plaza Alice Springs (completed - see the image on front page)
- A solar 'farm' at Ilparpa (near Heavitree Gap)
- Large scale solar power system at Alice Springs Airport
- A solar air-conditioning system at the Araluen Cultural Centre

Where to see solar technology up close in Alice Springs

Alice Springs is home to a world class solar demonstration facility, located at the Desert Knowledge Precinct, 5kms south of town on the Stuart highway. The Desert Knowledge Australia Solar Centre showcases and demonstrates a range of solar power technologies in commercial-scale installations. Over 15 different solar technologies are on display. While some of the technologies have been widely used within Australia, many of them are new to Australia. You can wander around a 500 metre pathway with interpretive signs along the way and there is an interactive screen that allows you to see first hand how the technologies are working with a display of real time data. Entry is free. Open Mon to Friday, 8am-5pm. Visit www.dkasolarcentre.com.au

You can also visit the interactive display in the Crowne Plaza Hotel foyer, which shows real time output from their rooftop solar system.

How are Alice Springs residents getting involved?

Through Alice Solar City, residents and businesses can access a free energy survey, receive tailored energy efficiency advice and benefit from a range of financial incentives to assist them on their way to becoming an energy champion. Incentives are available for a range of measures, from solar hot water and solar photovoltaic systems, to a wide range of energy efficiency measures such as energy efficient lighting, insulation and window tinting. Residents and businesses can also choose to participate in smart metering and energy pricing trials.

How can visitors get involved?

During your visit to Alice Springs you can join us in becoming an energy champion. If you are staying in a hotel, be sure to turn off your lights, air-conditioner and TV while out of your room. If you are staying with friends or family, ask them what they are doing to save energy!

Need more information?

Come and see us at the Smart Living Centre or phone us on **08 8950 4350**, email info@alicesolarcity.com.au or visit our website www.alicesolarcity.com.au

Location: 2/82 Todd Street (opposite Civic Centre)
Opening hours: 8.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday
10.30am to 5pm, Friday