

Workshop: Advanced to Solar PV

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If you have already taken '*Intro to Solar PV*' or have some experience, come to this one-day workshop to broaden your understanding of photovoltaic systems and acquire some installation techniques. We'll start by emphasizing the importance of understanding your household electrical loads. Hands-on activities will include wiring PV arrays and practicing battery layouts, emphasizing safety concerns. We'll look at how to choose inverters and charge controllers. We'll discuss wiring techniques, including sizing and making connections. Understanding the battery-based PV system at the Nolalu Eco Centre, complete with manual tracking array, inverter board, and maximum power point tracking will form the basis of our day's activities. At the end of the day, participants will leave with a solid working knowledge of designing and installing a basic PV system.

* This workshop requires basic previous solar PV experience or knowledge. Those without previous knowledge are strongly recommended to do the **Intro to Solar PV** first, on Saturday June 2

Bio for Frank Ilczyszyn

Frank Ilczyszyn (pronounced "Elchesin") is the Owner Operator of Frank's Alternate Energy, specializing in custom design and professional installation of "off-the-grid" solar and solar/wind hybrid systems for cottages and homes since 1994. He lives and works entirely "off-grid", generating power through a substantial solar & wind system by his own design. Frank has taught numerous Renewable Energy courses with Jane Oldale, and loves to give attention to detail in all aspects of his work. Frank still gets his kicks from the knowledge that each new system he puts in is another step towards a cleaner, better future.

When not busy detailing system installations for his clients, Frank enjoys watching the metering on his own RE system and is in tune with how it responds to the weather. Frank grew up on a small farm in the Slate River Valley and is a connoisseur of fine locally grown organic garlic.

Bio for Jane Oldale

Jane lives off the grid in a solar and wind powered house in South Gillies, and has taught numerous courses in Renewable Energy with Frank of Frank's Alternate Energy. She works in environmental outreach/education for EcoSuperior Environmental Programs, and promotes conservation and energy efficiency as the cornerstone for all renewable energy projects. Jane spends her spare time cutting wood and growing a vegetable garden (organic of course!), and has three mottos to live by:

Live simply that others may simply live (Mahatma Gandhi)

Life is uncertain ... eat dessert first

Life's too short for a full-time job.