

# Is solar power right for you?

If you're thinking about buying a solar home or converting your conventional home to solar power, remember there are limitations and precautions which should be considered.

Because the solar industry is still young, standards and performance criteria are still being worked out. Trade and professional organizations have begun to establish voluntary guidelines. However, in the case of the plumbing, heating and cooling contractors, no solar code has been established, an industry spokesman told the Alliance to Save Energy.

This does not mean that solar equipment won't be installed properly, but it does mean that special care should be taken when finding a contractor or buying a solar home.

Training sessions sponsored by various trade associations are underway to upgrade the knowledge and performance of contractors and others responsible for construction, installation and maintenance of solar equipment. In addition, a national conference on solar standards will be held in September.

The best way to insure that solar construction will be done properly is to find out what other solar work the contractor or engineer has completed and then check it out, advises a spokesperson for the National Solar Heating and Cooling Information Centre.

Some states, like Florida, have a rating system for solar contractors and manufacturers, and banks in some areas have their own standards for solar work, the spokesperson told the Alliance to Save Energy.

The National Solar Heating and Cooling Centre has available for the consumer a list of manufacturers, distributors, and solar professionals. This list is not a rating, but according to the spokesperson, if a complaint is made about someone on the list, their name is taken off. The Centre also maintains a listing of solar buildings around the country and the name of a person who can be contacted about the building. This contact can often advise a prospective buyer about reputable contractors and dealers. Also check with the Better Business Bureau.

It should be remembered that solar power is not always feasible. Almost any home can have a solar-heated hot water tank, but not every home can have solar heating and cooling, according to the spokesperson. At this time solar water heaters cost between \$600-\$2,000. However, as the systems become more readily available the cost is expected to drop. Sears and J. C. Penney are expected to market a do-it-yourself solar water heater next year, the spokesperson told the Alliance to Save Energy.

Whether it is possible and economically feasible to have solar heating and cooling depends on several factors.

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**HOT OFF THE PRESS**

3 bedroom brick and aluminum backsplint with carport. Gorgeous large finished Tudor style rec room with fireplace, above ground pool and cedar deck. Nicely landscaped and newly decorated. What value at \$68,500. Give Audrey a call. 359



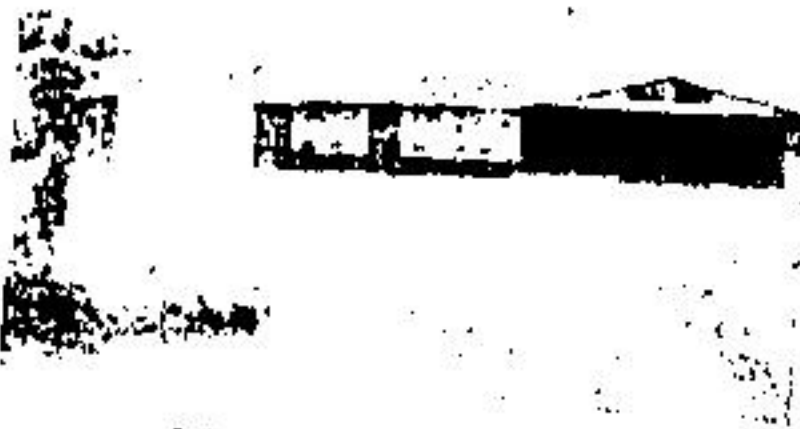
**SEEING IS BELIEVING**

A real charmer is this 3 bedroom raised bungalow with such features as a large games room, paneled rec room, cathedral ceilings in living and dining rooms and to top it off - all drapes and broodloom too! Asking \$65,500. Give Jon a call to see this "one of a kind!" 361



**HOME SWEET HOME IN BRAMPTON**

A great beginner's or retirement couple's home. 40 years young in super shape. Fireplace in 15' living room. New aluminum siding and a paved drive for only \$44,900. Call Audrey on this one! 366



**COUNTRY SECLUSION**

A lovely home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Main floor laundry room and family room with fireplace and an above ground pool. Large barn and toolshed. A must to see. Call Arlene or Sally for more details. Priced at \$97,900. 365



**SMALL TOWN LIVING**

is what you'll find in this quaint village setting. 1.2 acre lot, mature trees with older home. Apartment upstairs for extra income. Barn 20 x 30' with loft. A great spot for commuters. \$74,900. Call Arlene Shortill. 368

**SPECIAL OF THE WEEK**

**MULLEN PLACE - HOMES OF DISTINCTION**

Visit our Field Office on Saturday & Sunday 10 A.M. till 3 P.M. to check on available lots, plans & layouts. Outstanding features:

- Double size lots
- Paved cul de sac
- Town water
- Country Atmosphere
- Top quality material & workmanship
- extra heavy insulation.

Beautiful executive homes - a pleasure to see or call our office 877-0155 for more details.

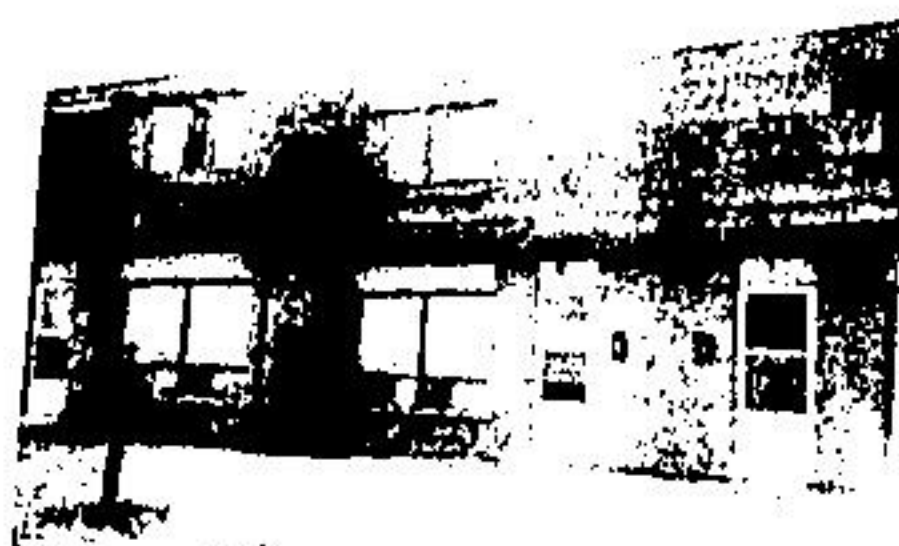
358

**BEAT THE HIGH COST**

of home ownership. Invest in a low cost "looking like new" townhouse. Convenient to schools, shopping and transportation.



including 2 baths, finished rec room, electric fireplace at \$43,900. 363



including finished rec room with fridge, some appliances and other extras at \$43,900. 364

**THE BEST IS YET TO COME**

with this lovely tree hillside 4 bedroom home on 1/2 acre pin-shaped lot, featuring a big eat-in kitchen adjacent to a cozy paneled family room with fireplace. Detached 2 car garage. Asking \$74,900. Call Jon for an appointment. 367

**HEY - LOOK ME OVER**

An ideal 4 room home for new beginnings on an oversized country lot. Just minutes north of Erin on paved highway, low down payment, recently reduced to \$38,000. Call Arlene to see this one. 369

**BARGAIN HUNTING**

Look no further! Economy living is what you'll find in this 4 room mobile home. Quiet park setting with large lot and all appliances for only \$19,500. Call Sally Reed to see this "best of buys". 370

**LAND - LOTS OF LAND**

114.57 acres to be exact with a 3 bedroom home. Includes a barn, open shed, implement shed and 2 storage rooms. Asking \$225,000. Call Coning. 371

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