



On Sept. 30, local and state officials joined students at Branford High School to cut the ceremonial ribbon on the school's new \$70,000 seven-kilowatt solar array. The rooftop panels generate enough energy to run a house and were given to the town through points earned as a Connecticut Clean Energy Fund "Clean Energy Community." Photo by Pam Johnson/The Sound

## The Power to Make a Difference

### BHS Solar Array Earned by Town

By Pam Johnson  
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Unless you commute by helicopter, it's likely you'll never notice the new array of solar panels snugged to the rooftop of Branford High School (BHS). On Sept. 30, the switch was officially flipped on the \$70,000 array, which Branford earned at no cost and generates enough electricity to run a house. State and town officials, students, and members of the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF) celebrated Branford's latest energy

initiative accomplishment by snipping a yellow ribbon with solar-colored shears in the school's media center.

"On the roof of this building is a reminder that each of us has the power to make a difference," said CCEF Energy Market Initiatives Director Bob Wall.

Branford became eligible to begin to collect points toward earning the seven-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system when it agreed to become a CCE Community in 2006. Since then, the town

has been encouraging residents and businesses to sign up for clean energy as part of CCEF's 20% by 2010 initiative. Leading the initiative has been the Branford Clean Energy Task Force.

Jonathan Katz, co-chair of the Branford Clean Energy Task Force, said of the BHS array, "This system makes enough electricity to run a house—it reminds us that solar energy is practical here in Connecticut."

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