

# We're all in the same boat

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April 14, 2020



AMERICAN  
**SOLAR**  
ENERGY SOCIETY

You have likely been bombarded with news about COVID-19 in the past few weeks. It is an uncertain and destabilizing time right now, and we hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. For some of us it is a pause button "amid the noise and haste" (in the words of Max Erhmann's poem, "Desiderata"), and for others it is an economic, social, or personal catastrophe. Many have lost their jobs, their retirement savings, and even their loved ones. We are saddened by so many losses. It is time for us to come together (virtually) and partner in new ways to be part of the solution.

Many of you are wondering about [SOLAR 20/20](#). It is set for June 24-25 as virtual conference that will be dynamic and engaging. It will knock your socks off.

In the meantime, ASES has put

together a [Solar Energy Workbook](#) for students and teachers to use, especially for online learning. Check out our new monthly webinar series. If you are interested in professional training, here's a great [installer certification course](#) that's free for you.

We have also created an online community forum (ases.site-ym.com/forums) for members to share their personal experiences during the pandemic. We all have a story to tell. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy, and don't forget to wash your hands.

With people not commuting, traveling, or polluting as much, global carbon emissions have [dropped](#) since the outbreak began.

Parts of China are seeing blue skies for the first time in a very long time with factories shut down. At the same time however, climate action is as important as ever. And with the rising

tide, we are all in the same boat.

As we are practicing social distancing,

we have time to remember what is

really important: connection with

families and our immediate communities,

global unity, self-reflection, the

environment. Although the virus has

crushed the economy, it is a re-set

that can help us to live a simpler life.

Get out there and take a walk! In a

way we are more connected than

ever as we share this global crisis.

Carly Rixham,

ASES Executive Director