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## Colorado Daily Staff Report

Boulder Valley Credit Union (BVCU) announced the installation of a 10-kilowatt Sun Power solar electric system on the roof of their Arapahoe Branch at 55th and Arapahoe in Boulder. Beginning today, their new solar electric system will produce clean, emission-free solar electricity, thereby offsetting 14 tons of CO2 pollution each year for the 30-40 year life of the system, which is equivalent to planting 1,078 total trees or equivalent to reducing 30,500 auto traveling miles per year.

In addition, BVCU will enjoy lower energy costs while stabilizing its electricity costs over the years. "Boulder Valley Credit Union is the first credit union in Boulder to go green and turn to solar electricity for its future energy needs," announced Boulder Valley Credit Union's CEO, Rick Allen. "We hope that with our leadership, other companies will follow suit by taking action to preserve our environment and public health."

To celebrate this milestone, BVCU will offer their members special low-rates on financing solar electric systems in their homes as well as lower auto rates for fuel-efficient vehicles. In addition, BVCU is giving away an environment-friendly gift for a limited time to all new members and offering energy efficiency tips that consumers can implement themselves for immediate and long-term positive effects on their wallet and our planet. Visit [www.bvcu.org/green](http://www.bvcu.org/green) for more information on these promotions.

"The decision to install the solar electric system by Namaste Solar Electric became simple, once we discovered the cost-savings of energy over the years and how doing so helps protect our environment," explains Allen. Incentives helped to reduce the cost of the system by 52 percent and future plans allow for the installation of additional panels which will increase the electricity production. In addition to installing a solar system, BVCU added energy efficient lighting and windows. "Saving our members money and helping our environment makes sense, and is the right business decision," adds Boulder Valley Credit Union's Board Chairman, Wayne Turnacliiff.

In the next month, BVCU will include a Fat Spaniel monitoring system on their web site to demonstrate how much electricity their system produces as well as the cost-savings of the energy their new panels have generated.