

PRESS RELEASE

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Bowser Administration Encourages Residents to Explore Climate-friendly Solutions at Inaugural Healthy Homes Fair

(WASHINGTON, DC) – The Bowser Administration invites District residents and home renovation professionals to attend the inaugural Healthy Homes Fair on Saturday, April 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the DC Armory. This free event will feature nearly 70 exhibitors and interactive activities where residents can learn about climate change's impact on health and quality of life, as well as their eligibility for federal tax credit programs and more than \$59.4 million in rebates that can increase home comfort and safety. The event is sponsored by Electrify DC, in partnership with the Department of Buildings (DOB) and Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE).

Before the fair opens to the general public, home renovation professionals will have access to training sessions from 10:00 a.m. – noon on topics that include renewables, battery storage, induction, and heat pumps.

"We want to increase awareness about technology and services available to homeowners, and educating our building industry professionals is key to achieving that goal," said DOB Director Brian J. Hanlon.



Up to 25% of the pollution in the District of Columbia originates from homes. Homeowners and renters have the power to eliminate that pollution by using electric appliances, insulation, and solar energy generation on roofs. The District's Carbon Free DC plan requires that 90% of all homes be fossil fuel free by 2024.

"The District offers many programs and incentives to help reduce carbon emissions and increase the resilience of our homes" said DOEE Director Richard Jackson. "The public can learn more about them at the Healthy Home Fair."

In addition to workshops and interactive activities, the Healthy Home Fair will feature a unique equipment "petting zoo," an e-bike tasting party, a bouncy castle for the kids, food trucks, induction cooking demonstrations, caulking workshops, information about the District's permitting process, and demonstrations about energy efficiency incentive calculator.

Attendees seeking green jobs can learn about the numerous careers available in the clean energy transition. The fair will also feature a scavenger hunt where attendees will have a chance to win prizes such as state-of-the-art induction cooktops.

"We are thankful for District agencies' partnership in creating this first-in-market event," said Electrify DC Executive Director Vanessa Bertelli. "We look forward to welcoming all residents, from those curious about induction stoves, to those who have questions about whether heat pumps work in cold weather (spoiler alert: they do!). Most of all, we look forward to welcoming our youth and those looking for the impactful, well-paying jobs of the future."

Find out more at <u>healthyhomesfair.org/</u>. Free registration is at <u>healthyhomesfair.org/register-to-attend.</u>

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Carbon-Free DC Plan

Carbon Free DC is the latest step in Washington, DC's leadership on climate action and emissions reduction. Aggressively reducing carbon emissions now is essential to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Buildings are the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the District. Strategies to address these emissions include calling for net-zero energy construction codes and offering programs that help residents and buildings convert existing systems to zero-carbon alternatives in a way that improves the quality of homes while simultaneously maintaining affordability. To learn more about the Carbon Free DC strategy, check out this story map.

Electrify DC

Electrify DC is a leading nonprofit dedicated to making it easier, faster, and more affordable to decarbonize all homes. Find out more at <u>electrifydc.org</u>.