



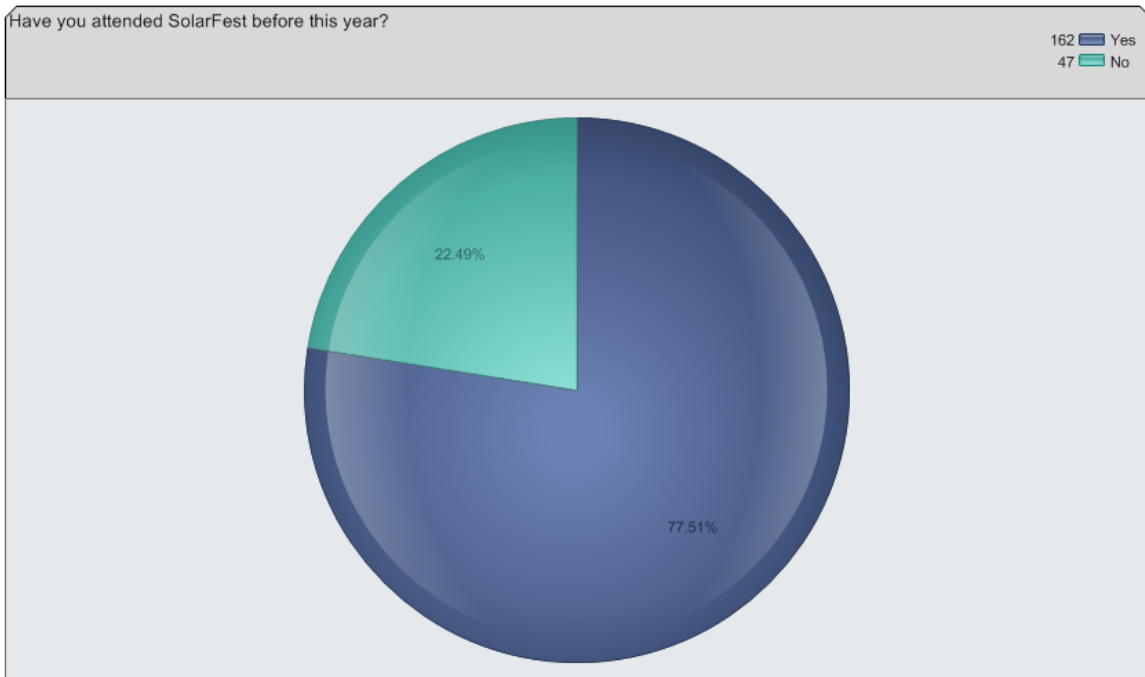
Survey: SolarFest 2011 Survey

Report: Default Report

Survey Status		Respondent Statistics		Points Summary
Status:	Closed	Total Responses:	209	No Points Questions used in this survey.
Deploy Date:	06/29/2011	Completes:	209	
Closed Date:	08/16/2011	Partials:	0	

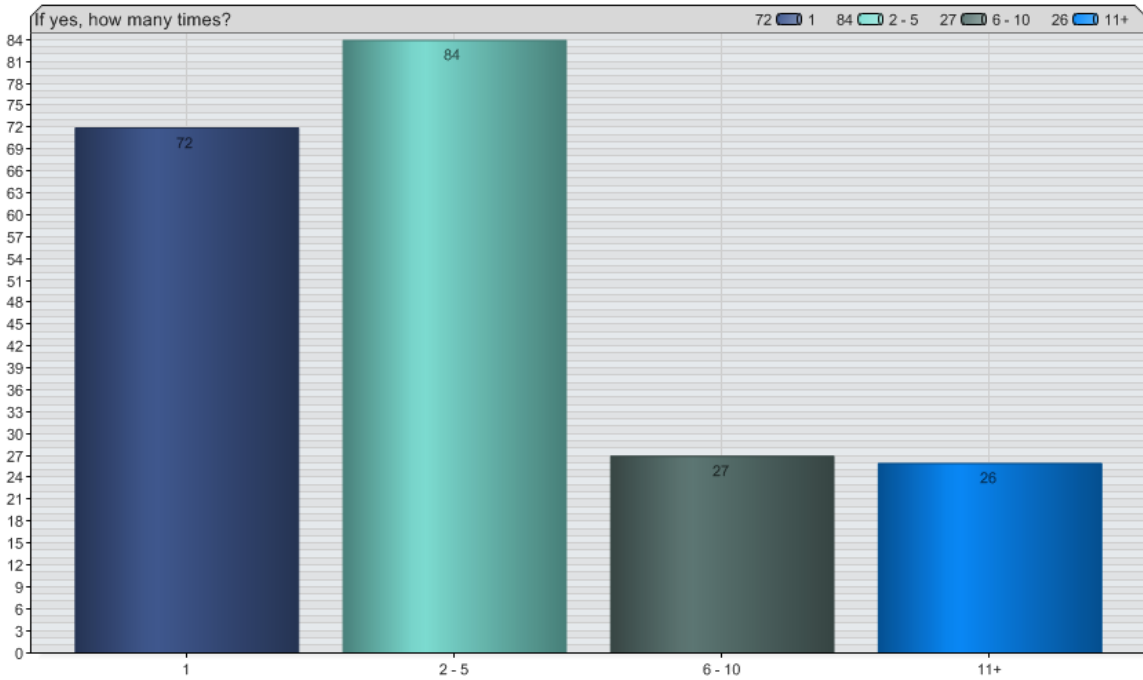
1. Have you attended SolarFest before this year?

	Responses	Percent
Yes: 	162	77.51%
No: 	47	22.49%
Total Responded to this question:	209	100%
Total who skipped this question:	0	0%
Total:	209	100%



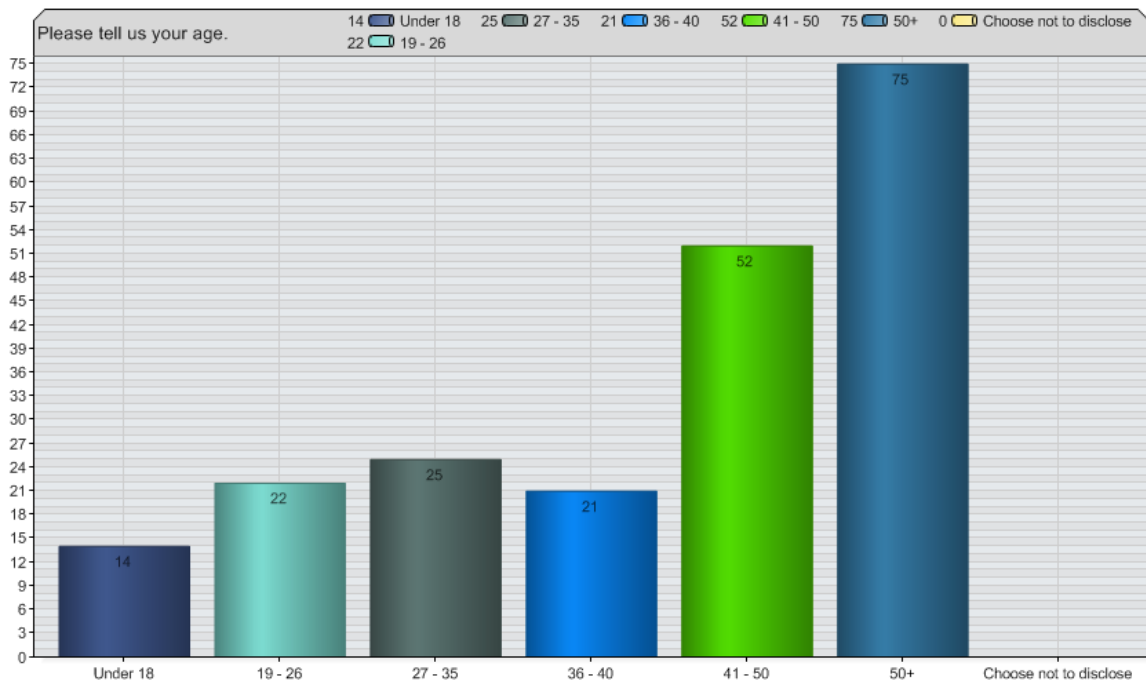
2.
If yes, how many times?

	Responses	Percent
1:	72	34.45%
2 - 5:	84	40.19%
6 - 10:	27	12.92%
11+:	26	12.44%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%



3.
Please tell us your age.

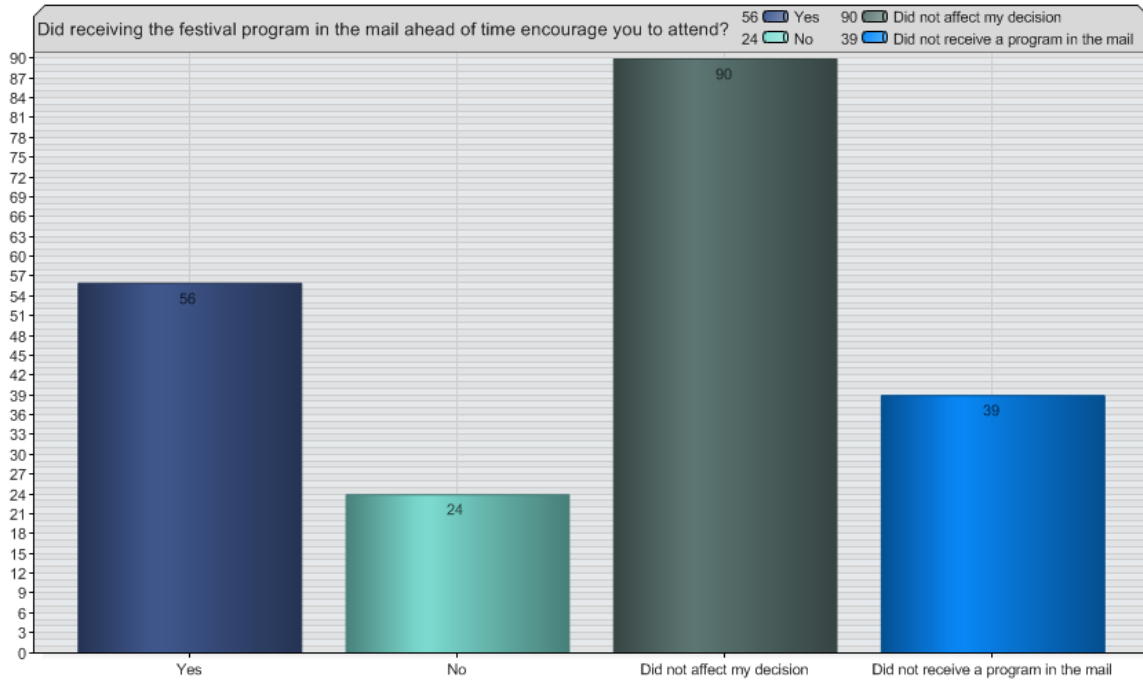
	Responses	Percent
Under 18:	14	6.7%
19 - 26:	22	10.53%
27 - 35:	25	11.96%
36 - 40:	21	10.05%
41 - 50:	52	24.88%
50+:	75	35.89%
Choose not to disclose:	0	0%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%




4.

Did receiving the festival program in the mail ahead of time encourage you to attend?

	Responses	Percent
Yes:	56	26.79%
No:	24	11.48%
Did not affect my decision:	90	43.06%
Did not receive a program in the mail:	39	18.66%
Total Responded to this question:	209	100%
Total who skipped this question:	0	0%
Total:	209	100%



5.
Comments on question 4?

	Responses	Percent
Responses: 	102	100%
Total Responded to this question:	102	48.8%
Total who skipped this question:	107	51.2%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

5.
Comments on question 4?

Response	Response Text
1	It was nice to get it, but I would have come regardless
2	no signs on the road from rutland on 4a then on the bend on 133 towards solar fest there were also no signs
3	I have heard of the Festival from friends in Vermont but this is the first chance I had to come.....I love it
4	When I looked at the Solarfest Newspaper, it gave me an idea of what the place looked like and what the people there do and what's it about it gave me the feeling that I should go and try it.
5	Getting the Solarfest program in the mail is always one of the most exciting moments in my household - we know that summer and fun is upon us!
6	no comment
7	Although we were already planning on attending, receiving the program in advance was great as it allowed us to plan and get even more excited!
8	I got programs for myself and friends at the Vermont Welcome Center, Brattleboro.
9	Heard about the festival trough a singer who was going to be here.
10	Love going to Solarfest and seeing all the vendors, the keynote speaker, and the music.
11	got the program after I ordered the tickets.
12	I had wanted to come with my display booth, then met Patty and she was very welcoming and interested in what I what I wanted to do, she made it easy.
13	I don't recall receiving a program, but it wouldn't have affected our decision; we go every year and would rather not receive extra mail, anyway.
14	I just need to know the dates, experience has taught me that taking the time to attend, if I am able, provides a valuable learning opportunity.
15	very helpful
16	I would have come anyway. We had so much fun last year!
17	I wanted to volunteer this year so the advance mailer didn't influence me however I really enjoyed receiving it.
18	Yes i receive e-mail 3 days before the festival.
19	We go every year so we had made our decision to go way back in the winter.
20	I did not receive the festival program in the mail because I heard about the event on VPR 2 weeks prior to the event. The festival program was online and that was all I needed to decide to attend.
21	We had looked at workshops and music online before receiving the festival program. The festival program was still helpful for referral at the festival.
22	I was already going to go, but getting the program made me more excited (and talk to others about going!) It was also fun to start thinking about what workshops I wanted to attend.
23	I am a big fan of Peter Mulvey... so that was part of my decision to attend.
24	Yes, daughter (22) saw it, said we had to go AGAIN!!!
25	Yes, daughter (22) saw it, said we had to go AGAIN!!!
26	I was asked to volunteer my services at the Kids Corner.
27	I did think it was strange to use the paper/funds on this mailing. I know you gave that thoughtful consideration. I did read it to learn about artists etc but did not need.
28	I had already pruchased my tickets prior to receiving the program in the mail
29	I received a program after purchasing a ticket and signing up to volunteer.
30	We like to plan out our workshop choices
31	i was coming no matter what
32	I went to website
33	It was good preparation and got me psyched

34 More via facebook, definitely influenced decision

35 Thorough, if not too much paper use.

36 How do I get on a mailing list?

37 Don't think it is necessary to send the entire program ahead of time. Many more people have access to the internet than in years past, where in many parts of VT this was the only way to get people to see the program ahead of time. Might be more cost effective to send a postcard instead. A direct mail reminder is still a good idea, but a less costly to mail and produce one would probably be better now.

38 It's great to get updates etc. via email. Save the postage!

39 I presented a workshop on Raw Milk.

40 It didn't affect my decision, but it did help a lot- I had the opportunity to read through, find the best workshops for me, and decide which bands I wanted to check out. (I love them all every year anyway- so I don't know why I bother picking)

41 we decided too late to participate, the programs were already sent out. I downloaded one off the website though.

42 I always like to review the workshops offered , their scheduled times, and names of presenters.

43 I liked having the program ahead of time.

44 Would prefer fewer mailings. Email communication is great and sufficient. Also through facebook.

45 The list of vendors exhibiting was most important

46 I liked getting the program, but there seemed to be a difference in what was in the program and what actually happened. I cannot put my finger on it, but some of the events seemed out of order of not at the time the program said they would be.

47 We would've attended anyway ; -)

48 I posted it on my bulletin board and set a goal to attend

49 We've come every year but one; nothing could affect our decision any more than our utter devotion to SolarFest!

50 y would i get 1 in the mail

51 yes and it helped plan my weeend as far as which lectures I would attend, etc...

52 Critical for planning and scheduling workshop and music events

53 Although we were already planning on attending, having the program in advance was a great help.

54 I am a member of the Bluegrass Gospel Project who performed on Sunday, July 17, 2011. I received plenty of email info prior to the event, but did not receive anything by mail. I was glad to be a performer there so I could check it out - have been wanting to go for several years...

55 I had signed up to volunteer.

56 I would have come even if i didn't get one but it helped me to tell others about what was happening this year.

57 I was a last minute volunteer through a friend posting on FB. After reading everything about it I decided it would be well worth the effort to become involved.

58 I planned on going but had a run of bad luck.

59 It did not affect my decision because I planned to attend anyway. But i did enjoy getting the program so I can plan my visit.

60 I was planning to go anyway.

61 would like to receive the festival program by email next year

62 I received the program after I purchased my ticket but it was nice to get it ahead of time.

63 I love SolarFest - the emails reminded me to sign up!

64 We would have gone, whether we received the program in the mail. I checked the website for any info I needed.

65 i already signed on

66 More information on presentations would be useful.

67 I would rather just view the program online. A postcard with information on how to get to the online version of the program might be good.

68 Having the line-up for music and speakers helps. I also pass it along to interested friends.

69 One of the reasons I made the effort and bought the full weekend ticket was to see Lynn Miles, who apparently cancelled shortly before the day. I realize this is no fault of Solar Fest, but it is disappointing.

70 I was presenting and doing workshops

71 I am a vendor and SolarFest is a profitable event for my company, we will continue to attend, regardless of program, as long as the event stays financially viable.

72 We are a Manufacturer of Renewable Energy products so we come to exhibit

73 YES, Absolutely.

74 Viewed on-line program only.

75 (I was a volunteer, so I was already definitely coming)

76 I like to plan workshop attendance before attending.

77 I like to plan workshop attendance before attending.

78 I didn't receive one, but would be happy to just look online, save your money.

79 I keep more track online than in print.

80 I do think it is important for first timers and other newbees to be informed about the events

81 I received the guide after I signed up as a volunteer

82 Rather not get a mailing. Website works just fine. I already know I'm going.

83 Looked up program online

84 of course I would like to see less paper being sent around however it seems like a logical proven way to get people to come and support our wonderful festival.

85 that was extremely helpful!

86 Every year I go to Solarfest because it is one of the coolest things in Vermont!

87 planning to come anyway

88 It can be a nice reminder for those not committed to attending Solarfest.

89 I also enjoyed receiving emails as a motivating factor; moreso than receiving a paper newsletter.

90 Would have come anyway

91 I looked through the program several times prior to going.

92 I'm a regular who was coming anyways.

93 Yes, we reviewed the program on line before purchasing tickets

94 We were vendors, freedom 4 electric bike company

95 Shared it with local friends, they were impressed, and talked about going, but didn't---maybe next year though!

96 I didn't receive it in the mail

97 Having attended a number of years in a row and being web savvy, I mostly disregard the mail unless necessary.

98 Glad to get program. It persuaded my S.O. to come. But I was coming anyway

99 I probably would have been more encouraged to attend had I received a program ahead of time. I signed up late in the game as a volunteer, but having now attended Solarfest, I do not need any encouragement to return next year!

100 But it sure did get me excited about attending again

101 A great vidual reminder to get my crap together!

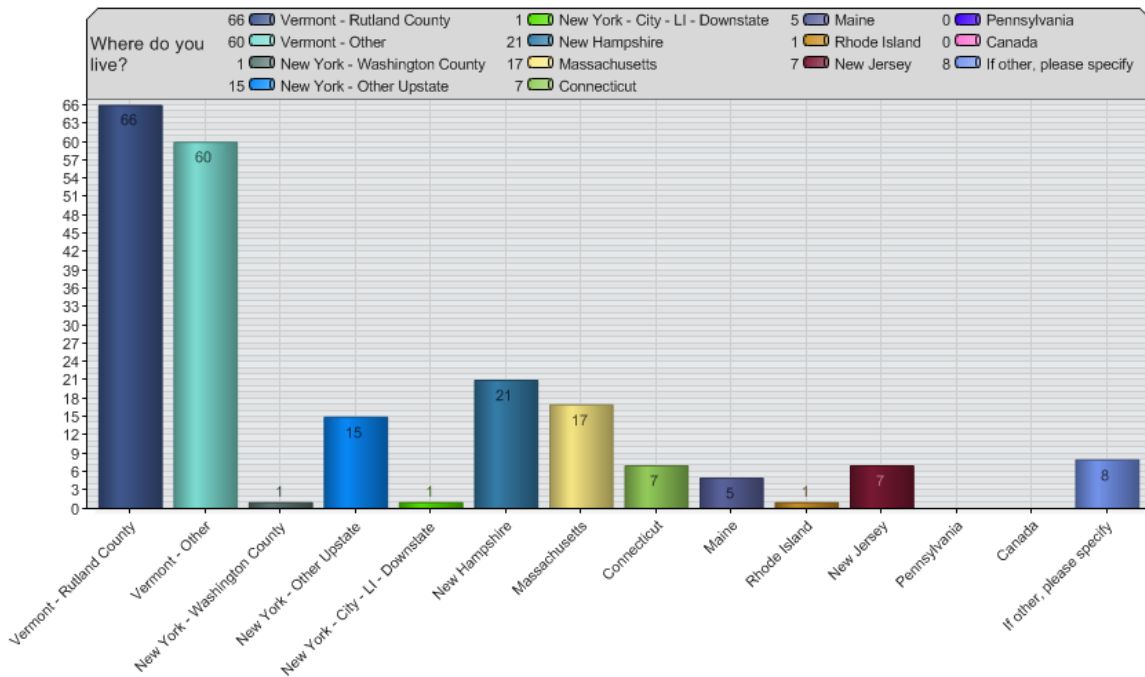
102 I was already excited about SolarFest from friends' recommendations, but the program in the mail just ade us more excited and able to plan a very busy and rewarding weekend more easily.

103 It's always great to view and peruse the 'program' before hand and always encouraging! THANKS

104 I did not go to Solarfest this year. I wanted to go up and look around and see people and buy things, but the entrance fee was just too high. perhaps a 2-3 hour elder fee -- I'm 67, which is a factor, too, not wanting to walk half a mile up and down in the hot sun. I really missed it.

6. Where do you live?

	Responses	Percent
Vermont - Rutland County:	66	31.58%
Vermont - Other:	60	28.71%
New York - Washington County:	1	0.48%
New York - Other Upstate:	15	7.18%
New York - City - LI - Downstate:	1	0.48%
New Hampshire:	21	10.05%
Massachusetts:	17	8.13%
Connecticut:	7	3.35%
Maine:	5	2.39%
Rhode Island:	1	0.48%
New Jersey:	7	3.35%
Pennsylvania:	0	0%
Canada:	0	0%
If other, please specify:	8	3.83%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%



6. Where do you live?

Response	Comments
1	Montpelier
2	addison county
3	I live in Massachusetts, and am building a home in Granville, NY- so I was a "local" for the weekend but I really live out of state.
4	Thetford Center, VT
5	Virginia

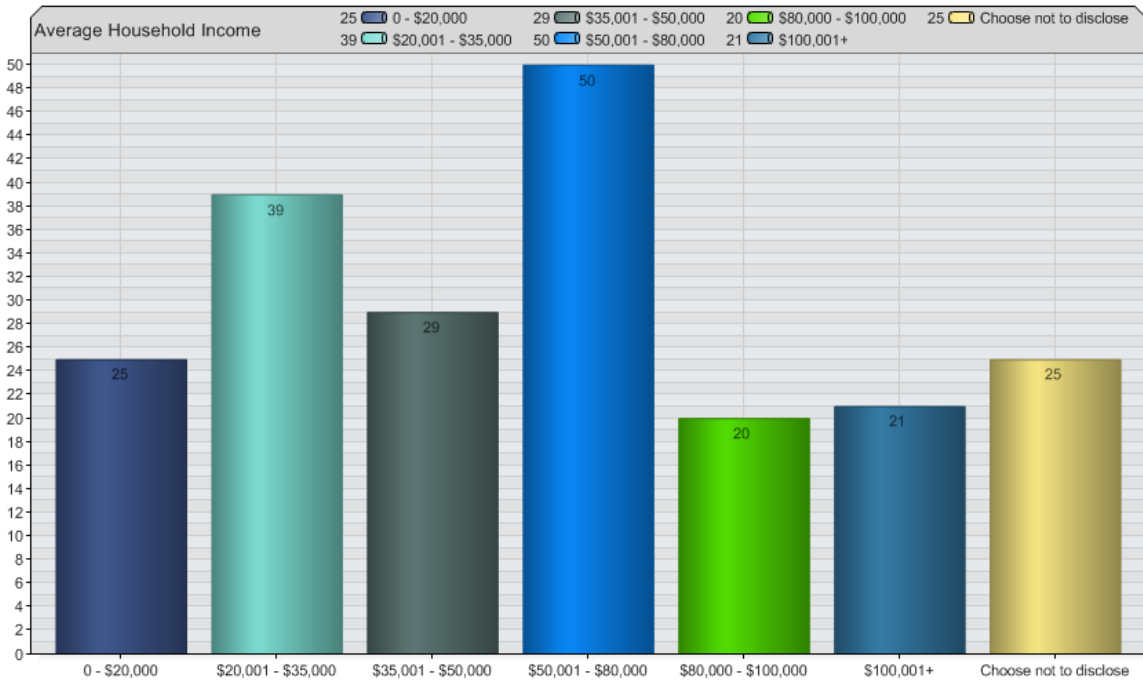
6 Washington State

7 kentucky

8 ohio

7. Average Household Income

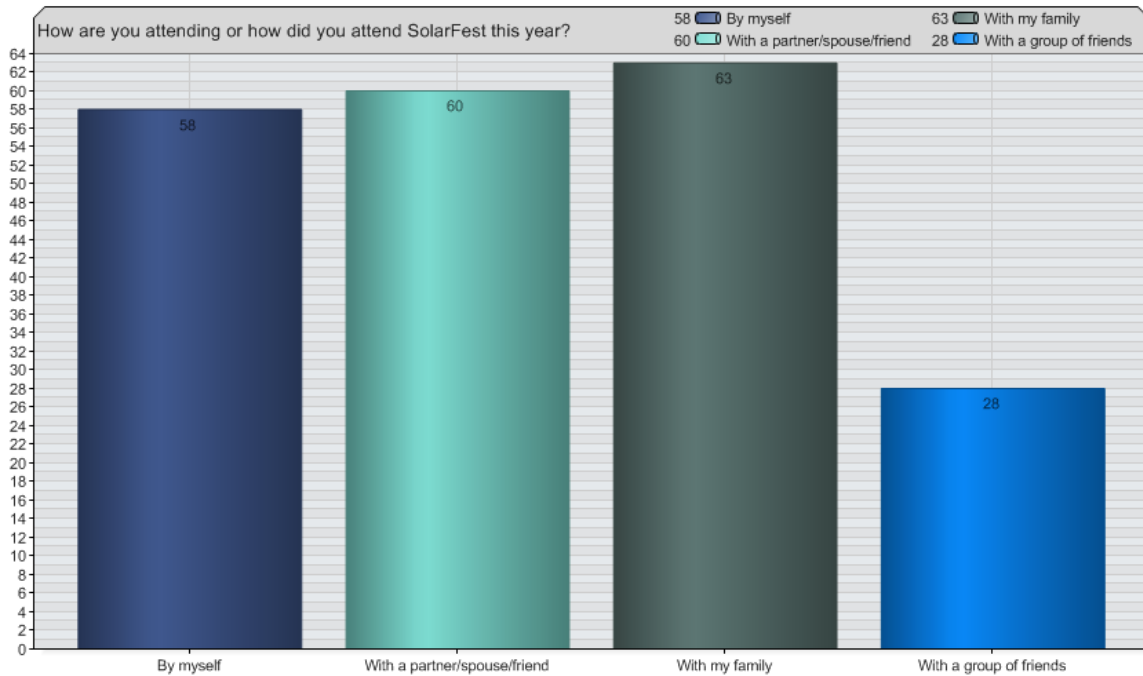
	Responses	Percent
0 - \$20,000:	25	11.96%
\$20,001 - \$35,000:	39	18.66%
\$35,001 - \$50,000:	29	13.88%
\$50,001 - \$80,000:	50	23.92%
\$80,000 - \$100,000:	20	9.57%
\$100,001+:	21	10.05%
Choose not to disclose:	25	11.96%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%



8.

How are you attending or how did you attend SolarFest this year?

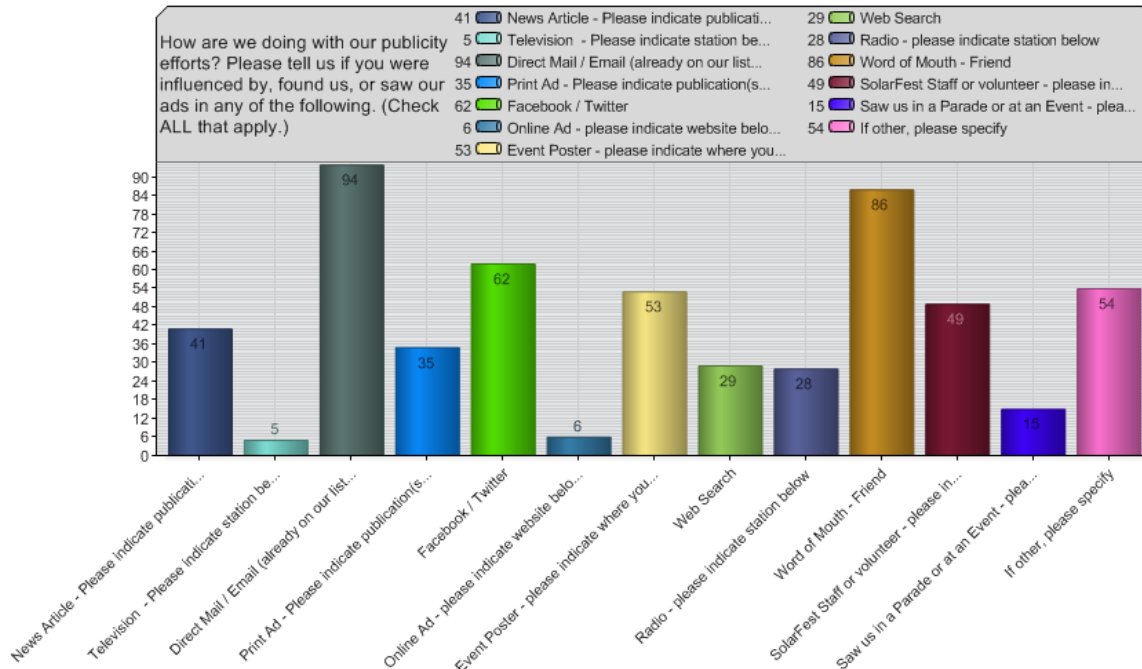
	Responses	Percent
By myself:	58	27.75%
With a partner/spouse/friend:	60	28.71%
With my family:	63	30.14%
With a group of friends:	28	13.4%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%



9.

How are we doing with our publicity efforts? Please tell us if you were influenced by, found us, or saw our ads in any of the following. (Check ALL that apply.)

	Responses	Percent
News Article - Please indicate publication(s) below:	41	19.62%
Television - Please indicate station below:	5	2.39%
Direct Mail / Email (already on our lists):	94	44.98%
Print Ad - Please indicate publication (s) below:	35	16.75%
Facebook / Twitter:	62	29.67%
Online Ad - please indicate website below:	6	2.87%
Event Poster - please indicate where you saw it below:	53	25.36%
Web Search:	29	13.88%
Radio - please indicate station below:	28	13.4%
Word of Mouth - Friend:	86	41.15%
SolarFest Staff or volunteer - please indicate specifics below:	49	23.44%
Saw us in a Parade or at an Event - please indicate where:	15	7.18%
If other, please specify:	54	25%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%



9.

How are we doing with our publicity efforts? Please tell us if you were influenced by, found us, or saw our ads in any of the following. (Check ALL that apply.)

Response	Comments
1	rutland herald
2	7 dAYS; wncs
3	Lakes Region Free Press

4 On the bus in Rutland
5 I think I first heard about SolarFest secondary to searching gigs for a certain musician.
6 vpr
7 Music artist web site
8 South Royalton Coop Market
9 your website solar fest
10 word of mouth - and exroomates mailing
11 had attended in previous years, so checked online
12 Radio Free Vermont
13 Found out about it from the Radio Free Vermont facebook page.
14 HOME POWER MAGAZINE
15 Home Power Magazine
16 radio, Todd Tyson, passed on calendar emails from environmental groups
17 The Bus!
18 poster at the Skinny Pancake in Montpelier, Vt.
19 wgbs, Brattleboro Food Coop, Elliot St. Cafe
20 Previous attendee
21 Eugene Rice suggested that I volunteer and I loved my experience, thanks Solarfest
22 rutland herald
23 University of Connecticut "Solar Roller" 2001
24 Mark it on the calendar as soon as I find the date
25 My partner got me involved, he spoke this year
26 Google Search for "Solarfest" because of San Antonio's Solarfest
27 The Point
28 white's gas station, ben & jerrys
29 brattleboro coop poster
30 I forget where I saw the print ads sorry, VPR
31 e-mail
32 I can't remember
33 website: SolarFest.org
34 i have attended ever since i lived in vermont, and was too young to know how i heard about it
35 I saw poster at local store (white's Fuel Stop)
36 first learned about it from my next door neighbor, whose brother lives in Middletown Springs and has been going for years.
37 we've been before and looked online for the dates
38 saw solarfest poster at Clearwater folk fest and Vt visitors center
39 I contacted you as a presenter
40 HOME POWER MAGAZINE
41 vpr
42 NPR
43 NPR
44 I remember the first solarfest and being asked if i wanted to be involved.
45 I placed some posters in towns in VT
46 bumper sticker
47 mansfield center general store mansfield, ct
48 VPR, The Point
49 Songwriting contest
50 VPR
51 Jen Talke-Munyak, SolarFest newspaper, Dave and Jen in the parade. We'd been trying to coordinate a volunteer effort since forever ago...
52 Herald
53 I work at Northshire bookstore and they are all about it.

10.

In reference to #9:

Please share with us any specifics you can recall.

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	89	100%
Total Responded to this question:	89	42.58%
Total who skipped this question:	120	57.42%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

10.

In reference to #9:

Please share with us any specifics you can recall.

Response	Response Text
1	Rutland Herald Article & Ad
2	You need more road signs
3	News article: The Lakes Region Freepress Direct Mail: Regular program Print Ad: Same as #1 Event Poster: In multiple places - at least 7 different stores all around Rutland County Parade: The Poultney 4th of July parade
4	Saw it in the Rutland Herald A LOT. Liked the Facebook page
5	I also am attracted by the Keynote speakers
6	Another vendor told us about Solarfest.
7	3 of my favorite artists had sets scheduled.
8	VPR
9	Poultney 4th of July was the only publicity I happened to see this year
10	See # 5, I need to be reminded of the dates.
11	...
12	have your website saved as a favorite
13	Kids tent is great!
14	The main specific that i can recall is the photovoltaic installation.
15	The Point
16	I first heard about the event on VPR, then I went to the website to check it out, and then did the 'like' on the facebook page. After that, when the event name was bouncing around in my brain, I begin seeing it on papers or magazines that I picked up. I can't remember which ones, but I am guessing Seven Days.
17	Rutland Food Co-op is where I saw a poster.
18	Posters all over- local stores Middletown Springs Parade
19	The Point radio station 7 Days Poster in RJs Market in Waterbury E-mails from you
20	I saw a news story on WCAX, I saw an ad in the Lakes Region newspaper, I heard from a friend on Facebook that he was attending, I was asked by a staff member to volunteer (Rosemary Moser), and I saw people in the 4th of July parade here in Poultney. For the locals, I think you have it pretty well covered!
21	The point radio station always promotes. Really missed signs this year upon approach. Was glad I knew where to go. Best is word of mouth and we will continue to do our part.
22	I heard about the festival from a friend who had attended 3-4 time. I found the website, and then she encouraged me to purchase tickets and sign up to volunteer. After that I received emails and updates on FB where I had "liked" the SolarFest page.
23	my friend Ellory urged me to go for the past two years. As i could not make it to Solarfest 2010 i managed to go one day this year, and i saw some of my other friends there.
24	My boyfriend has gone in the past, so we decided to go together this year.
25	Missed the road signs this year but understand the transportation dept prohibited
26	My brother is a volunteer and my family has been supporting solar fest since around its inception
27	Since I live in the area and know many of the participants that make it happen I hear much about it throughout the year.
28	Rutland Herald Phil Henry We can't recall where we saw posters, sorry!
29	Two of my friends were presenters.
30	Great Facebook page but whatever happened to the Facebook group?? FB changed how groups are organized and the new format would be much better to help SolarFest encourage the year-round community. I would recommend changing the old group to the new group format and encourage people to connect yearround. There was NO RIDEBOARD activity this year and that was a major upset for many I spoke to. That was a big thing the FB group was used for in the past, please revive it or restart it!
31	I am friends with Andrew Wallace who works for Dark Star. We come down to spend the weekend with friends.

32 -Look forward to your emails and put you on the calendar immediately!

33 I think it was a quiet year, it seemed like there were fewer vendors and speakers. I missed the key note completely. The bands were better and I love the house band. There were posters up in Brattleboro and Bennington, but it seems as though we aren't getting new folks coming. One participant mentioned that the talks were similar from year to year. I am still new and never get to all of the events I wish to participate in, so it is still good for me.

34 I saw an add in the local newspaper- Can't remember which one. I saw the event poster in my family store- The Benson Village Store. Word of Mouth- I first found out about the festival through the Chesnut-Tangermans Solarfest Staff- Same as above.

35 Your flyer and email give in-depth preview of the offerings.

36 I don't recall exactly how I found out about solarfest, but when I did I knew I was going. I liked that I could volunteer and reduce my cost. I do feel that the first time should not be a volunteer year. I did not get to do all the things I wanted to do. Not a big loss, because I already knew quite a bit, just wanted to sit in and see if I could learn more.

37 Well, we've been attending Solarfest since 2006 and it is a yearly summertime tradition for us. Sadly, we are moving to North Carolina (currently Burlington residents) and will probably not be able to make it EVERY year moving forward but we will be back. So, as far as the advertisement goes I do hear ads on Point FM but they don't influence my wife and I to go or not. I will say that I do appreciate the fact that a billion people don't go to Solarfest - the message is important but selfishly I really enjoy a smaller crowd - makes it feel more special.

38 not sure how we found it the first time-but my daughter was doing a HS science project on Solar energy, and is now attending engineering college -WPI.

39 WNCS

40 I've seen advertisement posters at Green Mountain College and some local establishments on Poultney's main street. Many of my friends have been volunteers in the past (as well as they were this year) and I also saw Solarfest advertisement in the 4th of July parade in Poultney.

41 No comment

42 Was invited first year by the Squiers and since have volunteered and brought numerous friends and family to volunteer as well

43 Saw posters in numerous spots. Heard a lot of radio spots on VPR.

44 Seven Days, both print and online versions

45 Posters were all around Poultney. I am a volunteer and I told people about it. Saw Solarfest in the Poultney 4th of July parade.

46 I am a volunteer so i was in the poultney forth of july parade. the friends i attend solarfest with are also volunteers

47 I had seen signs posted on rt. 140 the previous year and wondered what the Fest was all about? I did not have the opportunity to attend. This year my friend posted on FB and I decided I would check it out. As it turned out I volunteered. I was disappointed I did not see any signs like the previous year.

48 Green Energy Times

49 As a regular attendee, I know to look up the SolarFest.org website to get the information and schedules.

50 We've been an exhibitor for years so we're already well attuned to Solarfest.

51 read an article in the Barre-Montpelier Times Argus newspaper

52 We would always come anyway, whatever the publicity, so maybe we're not the right ones to ask. We know it's a good thing.

53 Rutland Herald ad, poster at Tinmouth Community Center, poster at Boardman Hill Farmstand.

54 Rutland Herald ads and news articles. Carol Tashie is my neighbor and friend. I have volunteered for SolarFest in the past.

55 VPR radio, frequent ads I receive your emails for volunteers

56 see above

57 Friends with a solarfest volunteer. They gave me a poster to put up in my store.

58 The Fountains and Micheal Gamache

59 Facebook posts kept me updated and acted as a constant reminder. Very helpful.

60 Three years ago I decided I'd like to try being a cendore there (Donnelly/Colt), and I've enjoyed the festival each year.

61 rut herald wooden barrel chit.

62 A friend brought me to volunteer in 2010 and I couldn't resist coming back.

63 had already signed up to volunteer by that point, but it was nice to see publicity for the event.

64 I have been going since Middletown Springs, and get the emails every year.

65 Hear blurb on VPR

66 I'm a Home Power Subscriber.

67 Seemed like a less publicity this year

68 A solarfest staff sent a note around to homeschoolers letting them know there were good discounts for weekend passes

69 I saw posters at a gas station about 30 miles away

70 My friend Helen was in your singer/songwriter event

71 Poultney parade 4th of July.

72 Patty and Jaya emailed me!

73 Picked up a flier years ago at Solar Cafe at a different festival.

74 Posters around Rutland area, saw add in the Herald and other local free papers (Sam's Good News, Mtn Times, Seven Days)

75 Memorial day parade!

76 i have a few friends who sell or give out info there, they've mentioned it, it sounded good, i went!

77 heard it on VPR, read about it in Seven Days and Rutland Herald, and recall being asked to be in on the first organizing meeting of solarfest many many years ago.

78 saw posters around poultney where I live good friends with several very involved people.

79 I am always happy to put up posters and any other literature you have....

80 A friend told us about Solar Fest two years ago and I signed up for the email list. I don't receive any publicity on Solar Fest in Connecticut other than my emails.

81 we saw the poster at our local bank in Enfield NH

82 Articles in Rutland Herald. Assumed I'd be a volunteer again this year

83 contest attracts musicians. How about an organized song swap at night run by someone who has experience. This will attract musicians and music lovers for yrs to come.

84 I became a member of the group page, then I received updates about Solarfest in my newsfeed. That encouraged me to sign up as a volunteer (facebook message in my newsfeed).

85 Actually, I recall less advertising this year than any other year. While commuting to Manchester from Poultney a few years ago, I used to see signs and posters everywhere!!!! This year I didn't see a single poster or street direction sign until the day of the festival. I saw many Solarfest references in the Rutland Herald, and an ad here or there. But not nearly as much as I have in the past.

86 After friends told us about the upcoming festival, I got on SolarFest's email list and appreciated the notices about the Early Bird and group special and other information.

87 I don't know where I didn't hear about it! It was everywhere.

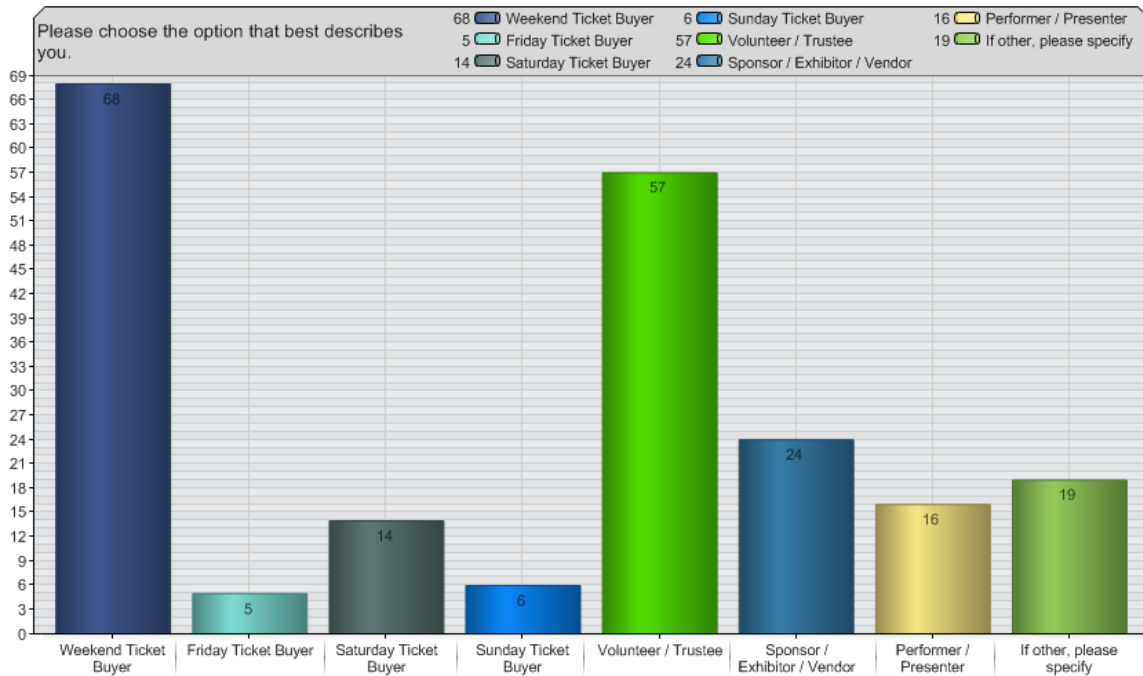
88 We hung up posters. I knew about Solarfest before I started working there, but it was a good reminder.

89 Rutland Herald, Lakes Region Free Press, VPR, Poultney 4th July Parade

11.

Please choose the option that best describes you.

	Responses	Percent
Weekend Ticket Buyer:	68	32.54%
Friday Ticket Buyer:	5	2.39%
Saturday Ticket Buyer:	14	6.7%
Sunday Ticket Buyer:	6	2.87%
Volunteer / Trustee:	57	27.27%
Sponsor / Exhibitor / Vendor:	24	11.48%
Performer / Presenter:	16	7.66%
If other, please specify:	19	9.09%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%





11.

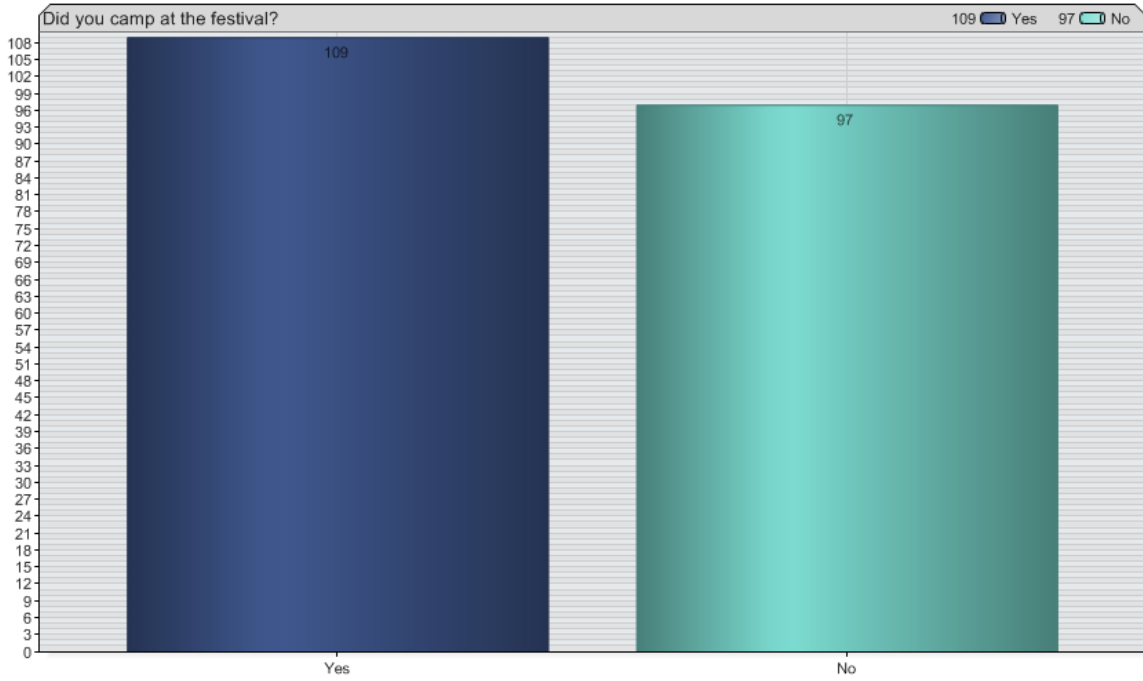
Please choose the option that best describes you.

Response	Comments
1	have been a sponsor
2	gift
3	exhibitor support
4	I have been both weekend ticket buyer and a volunteer
5	This year I attended two days, walk in camping with my daughter. Her availability determined our attendance duration.
6	weekend pass winner on The Point
7	usually a one day buyer, attended all weekend on Todd's complementar pass
8	Technically, an exhibitor, but my whole family comes as weekend ticket buyers
9	and/or weekend ticket buyer
10	Saturday or Sunday only, depending on offerings
11	Photovoltaic course participant
12	presenter and vendor
13	what ever time allows

- 14 Usually come for 1 day of the 3; came 2 Saturdays in a row, 2 Sundays as well.
- 15 we have attended sat and sun in the past
- 16 Usually purchase weekend ticket but Sat workshops did not look appealing enough to me (as have had similar workshops in past years) to justify the cost for both days.
- 17 Presenter in SolarGeneration track and volunteer
- 18 newly interested!
- 19 A few hours for maybe \$20 would be fair.

12.
Did you camp at the festival?

	Responses	Percent
Yes: 	109	52.91%
No: 	97	47.09%
Total Responded to this question:	206	98.56%
Total who skipped this question:	3	1.44%
Total:	209	100%



13.

If you camped with us please indicate where, i.e. walk-in camping, car or RV, volunteer camping, quiet camping, etc.

Also, please share anything you'd like us to know about your camping experience.

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	109	100%
Total Responded to this question:	109	52.15%
Total who skipped this question:	100	47.85%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

13.

If you camped with us please indicate where, i.e. walk-in camping, car or RV, volunteer camping, quiet camping, etc.

Also, please share anything you'd like us to know about your camping experience.

Response	Response Text
1	need old fashioned outhouse for walkin campers, maybe a solar powered nn methane digesting/composting tidy with free hot shower from sun
2	volunteer camping
3	car
4	Car
5	walk in & car
6	RV camping with a pop-up camper. Overall, camping space is abundant and pleasant. Might be nice to have a couple of port-a-potties toward the far end of the RV camping field. It's a long walk in the middle of the night...
7	Car camping No issues, nice neighbors, good setting
8	walk in - great
9	Car camping on the hill. My first year (2007?) we camped next to a group of young people who were smoking cigarettes at their campsite. I did request they use the smoking section, but to no avail. I was disappointed in the enforcement of this rule. I'd love to have a smoke-free Solar Fest.
10	RV, it was great for us to have so much fun and be comfortable.
11	Walk in. Thank you for the opportunity. The attitude and expectation for mutual respect creates a comfortable atmosphere for pitching a tent for a good night's rest. Camping also oallows us to save the time and energy of a commute, since we were able to attend two days. Thank You
12	car camping at the top of the first section. perfect....we forgot blocks to level our VW, but were able to find a flat spot.
13	rv
14	car camping in the field
15	walk-in camping in the woods, and thats our first camping experience with my wife.
16	Walk-in camping. We love the experience of sleeping in the forest and waking up in such a beautiful place. Also you can go to sleep listening to the music. The hill is a killer though (good exercise though!)
17	Car camping. Camping was a good setup, no complaints.
18	Walk in.
19	Walk-in camping in the woods...love it!
20	rv lot is where we camped. What a great setup!!
21	I camped in the wooded area last time and it was nice.
22	Car
23	Car
24	Walk in. Had a person with handicap and all were so helpful
25	Car.
26	Volunteer camping - was not comfortable because it was so exposed, hot by 7 AM, hard to move around and sleep on steep incline, main stage music too loud for young children (and even me) past bedtime. We hope to camp on the other side of the road next year.
27	walk in camping... i would've like to explore the woods more for camping further away from others. I really didn't enjoy the tent suburbia up there in the woods. Perhaps make a designated spot for people who get up earlier, or have children. There were many children running around touching my tent as they walked by.
28	car camping
29	car camping, every year to come here i work a double shift, thursday day then night, then i drive to the fest. i buy my tickets ahead of time. i get there about 6:30 am. go set up my site and then sleep for about 3 hrs. when i get up i go exchange my tickets for wrist

bands this year when i pulled in i was told i would have to wait for the box office to open. i was a little stressed out i was so tired, then after about 1.5 hrs. i was let in, why buy tickets ahead of time. it all worked out fine

30 Tent

31 Volunteer Camping

32 We chose walk in camping and it was a blast!

33 I camped in the walk-in camping section with the others I attended the festival with. My only complaint is that the bathroom stalls were a long walk away from the entrance to the walk-in camping area. It would have been nice to have a few bathroom stalls located near the entrance of the walk-in camp site.

34 We camped as a Walk-in Camping. It was a great place to camp and we could hear the music all the way up at our tent it was AMAZING!

35 volunteer camping... it was much quieter this year, thank you!

36 volunteer

37 Car camping. The pot-a-potties were well-lit this year. That was awesome. Nice to see some solar-powered visual art at the event this year! Do more!!

38 In the woods.

39 I camped up in the RV lot. Although I am a volunteer, I like it up in that area better because the ground is more level and I don't roll off of my cot that way.

40 Walk in camping

41 Camp in Walk-in Camping. Great spot, fantastic environment as always!

42 car

43 Volunteer camping was lovely, I have absolutely no complaints. The porta-potties were clean and convenient, and we had enough room to separate the tents sufficiently.

44 car. great experience all around.

45 Car camping

46 Car camping. It was wonderful as always! However, did seem like there were fewer portapotties this year and there was often a wait.

47 Car drive-in camping

48 Volunteer Camping. An idea for future years would be transportation from the volunteer camping area to each work area. Kind of like a bus service. We arrive at this time and these are our stops, plan accordingly. Could use an electric van perhaps?

49 We car camped in a tent fairly close to the main stage area/vendors.

50 The walk to the swimming hole was long, but worth it.

51 walk-in camping

52 Walk-in, same spot every year...perfect, peaceful forest haven!

53 walk-in camping

54 Car camping was a good experience and I was impressed that everyone picked up their own junk afterwards.

55 N/A

56 RV camping (pop-up). It would be nice to have a couple of port-a-johns in the camping field (long walk in the middle of the night).

57 Volunteer camping, glad it was expanded into far field

58 RV..it was great

59 volunteer camping

60 Volunteer camping

61 Volunteer camping. Couldn't have been better--perfect.

62 Walk-in camping. I forgot my air mattress.

63 walk in camping, it was great to be in the woods, everything about it was great, the people around us were quiet and respectful, I woke up unusually late and refreshed for camping at a festival.

64 walk in camping

65 volunteer camping, right beneath the road, and above the thriving locally tent.

66 car camping. it was easy and fun.

67 Volunteer camping. Great experience - very quiet

68 Car, Love it!

69 Car Camping

70 quiet camping

71 quiet camping

72 Car camper. Love the location of the camping in relation to the festival. It really helps me feel comfortable with my children at the festival.

73 car I appreciate the solar showers!

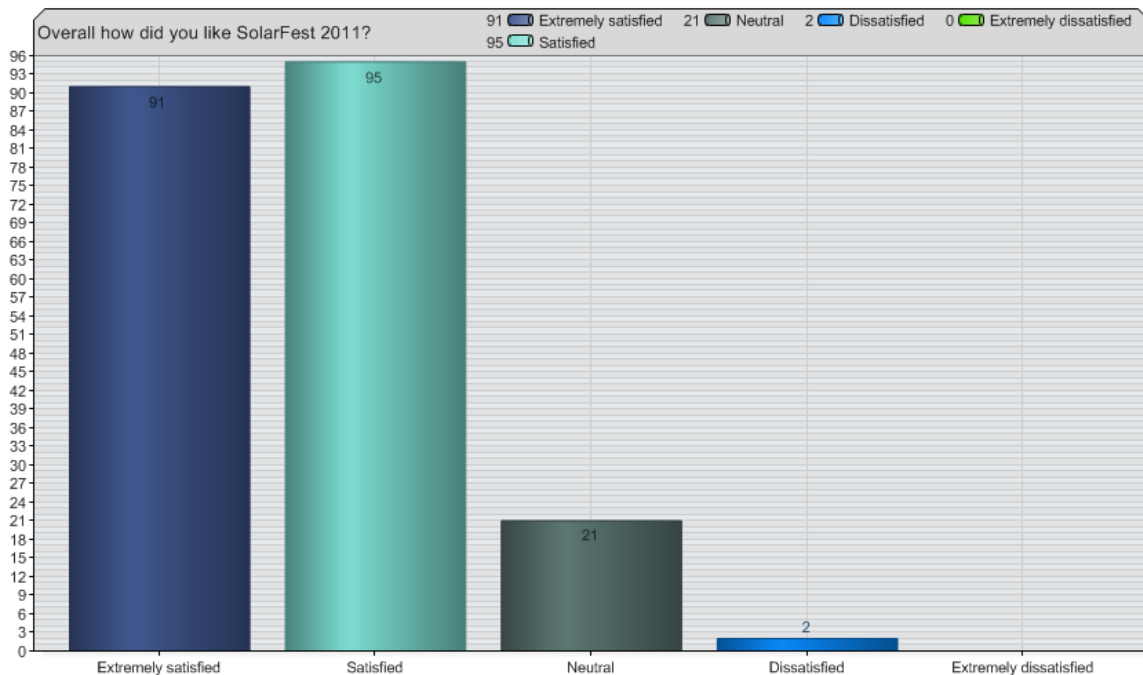
74 vol

75	Walk in camping was lovely and quiet.
76	Volunteer camping; moved our car to the volunteer (RV) parking lot.
77	car camping...much better than volunteer camping..no prickly bushes like in volunteer area...and it's so much easier to car camp, with everything stored in the car.
78	walk in camping. It was basic but okay. I went to a hotel the second night because the heat was a bit too much for me.
79	Walk in camping. I loved it!
80	walk in. Ok experience, but I couldn't find a decent spot
81	Walk-in camping
82	I camped in car camping, but I think I was supposed to camp in volunteer camping. Oops. There was room so I don't think it was a problem.
83	volunteer camping
84	Car
85	Car camping. We do it every year and love it, but do wish there were some guidelines around early morning chatter. I know there are "quiet hours" at night, but in the morning some people don't seem to be aware of how much their voices carry. After being up late it would be nice to get to sleep past 5:00 or 6:00!
86	car camping! it was awesome!
87	Volunteer camping.
88	volunteer camping
89	Walk in camping. No complaints.
90	volunteer camping
91	We paid and camped in car camping to get the best central location to the activities. I just like looking at the festival grounds from that location.
92	Car camping. It was a fine setup.
93	Car or RV
94	walk-in camping
95	volunteer camping, hard to find level spots.
96	car camping
97	walk-in camping in the RV area
98	walk in camping
99	volunteer camping
100	rv camping
101	camping with car - very good experience
102	VolunteerCamping. Some confusion about whether cars were permitted or not. We did not keep our car there, others did. It would certainly have been convenient to keep car up there, but prefer it without cars...if it is a universal compliance. We would have been able to store our food etc in the car, but didn't. Love the camping.
103	volunteer camping. People are finding nooks in the vegetation to set up tents. Maybe a pre-weedwacking of little sites scattered around could be done?
104	Car camping. Thank you SO much for not charging extra for car camping!
105	Car camping, love being close to the stage and listening to music from the tent.
106	walk in
107	car camping, lovely experience. I know it's sold in plastic bags but would be nice to be able to buy ice at the festival.
108	RV camping, was comfortable (how can I complain, I am in an RV). We were able to park on an almost flat surface.
109	volunteer camping. It was great except it was a bit of a challenge getting our car up the hill. It would have been nice to have a sink, or water faucet closer. We didn't expect the music to be so loud so late into the night. (We came with a group of friends, all of whom have young children and went to bed earlier than most, probably.)
110	I camped in the newly opened upper meadow in the volunteer camping area. Very very nice! Thanks Marshall!

14.

Overall how did you like SolarFest 2011?

	Responses	Percent
Extremely satisfied:	91	43.54%
Satisfied:	95	45.45%
Neutral:	21	10.05%
Dissatisfied:	2	0.96%
Extremely dissatisfied:	0	0%
Additional Comments:	77	36.84%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%



14.

Overall how did you like SolarFest 2011?

Response	Comments
1	It's only Friday afternoon, how satisfied can one be?
2	bread and puppet
3	It was awesome!!!!
4	Keep up the good work Solarfest! This year was the best one yet! One thing though: a lot of people I know wanted very badly to come, but with this economy, couldn't afford it at all. I know that the prices are a great deal, but a lot of people can't afford them.
5	Seamed to be less vendors.
6	Bring friends and people your age
7	I would like to see Solarfest practicing what it preaches at deeper levels. I realize that the energy used at Solarfest is solar generated but we need to have a change in lifestyle and habit more importantly than finding ways to create the energy to supply our convention lifestyles. I appreciate the minimal electric lighting but I think the entertainment could be more energy conscious. Half the amplification, half the stage lighting - shooting for simplicity, not over the top. We are not here to celebrate how capable we are to be amaze ourselves - we're here to learn new solutions which in our situation will only be a lifestyle change along with sustainability. Otherwise everything else we are learning here is just 'feel good' practices
8	Who cares about the CEO of GrowSolar?!! Why not Naomi Klein or Jeremy Scahill?!!
9	It would have been nice to see more people, but the small audience was really special.
10	None of the entertainment particularly struck me this year, and with a 3-year-old we haven't attended many workshops in recent years. Still, the overall "vibe" was as good as ever:)
11	Each year I attend I gain in knowledge about the next steps to improve the efficiency of my energy consumption, very relevant, tangible information. Thanks, again.

12 My only problem is being able to see a couple signs to know we are getting close. say for example "only 5 miles to solar fest"

13 music was great!

14 We always enjoy the education aspect of SolarFest and being with people of like-mind. This year was no different. We enjoy the music and the exhibitors, but it is for the education and people that we come back year after year. Loved the increase hands-on content this year!

15 Well having just moved back to VT after living in IN for 10 years it is nice to be back. The things that I wanted to learn were covered in the many workshops that were offered. The music was great as well as the workshops and presenters. I have no complaints, only praises. Wonderful weekend.

16 I will send a document under sepeate cover. Also did pictures for yur use.

17 Loved it! Haven't felt so "at home" at an event in years!

18 We really enjoyed the whole Solarfest experience!! We hope to attend next year and bring some friends! Thanks

19 the musical line up was not intriguing enough to make me want to spend the entire weekend

20 Workshops seemed lackluster. Thriving locally needs to be re thought, something more relevent. Time could be better served on more energy or gardening related topics. Vegan cooking. Canning. Drying. Soapmaking, Home skills. Need to expand "interests" to get more people involved.

21 Workshops seemed lackluster. Thriving locally needs to be re thought, something more relevent. Time could be better served on more energy or gardening related topics. Vegan cooking. Canning. Drying. Soapmaking, Home skills. Need to expand "interests" to get more people involved.

22 The musical schedule seemed unusually off with timing etc. We are flexible but with large group do plan meals etc.around music so perhaps a bit more attention to updating schedule. Also seemed like more rock, even hard rock than usual- less variety but loved most of it

23 I would've enjoyed, and I think SolarFest as a whole would've benefited greatly from a much more diversified music lineup. I think many, many, MANY more people would come to this event if that were the case. I get very bored with the routine singer song writers one after the next. It's great to have some of that but there was just too much! Think of how electric the energy was when John Cleary was playing. That's what people want, and that's what will draw more people. They want to dance and be inspired. There are so many diverse bands out there that will get people up off their feet and want to do something. I would be more pleased with the festival if the music portion was more diverse. Hip-hop, jazz, rock, blue grass, rock, folk, etc.

24 great workshops this year. Love the solar generation workshops. Heroes in Nature was one of my son's favorites. Laughter Fitness was great!

25 i learn and bring home something every year to put into use at my homestead

26 A lot of the fest seemed to be almost the exact same as last year. Workshops are all the same topics over and over with nothing new and it's always the same vendors / tents. A little more variety and something new would be nice. Really felt like there was no focus this year either. With how big the green movement is, generic green doesn't cut it any more.

27 Keep up the great work! one of the best events i have ever been to. I hope to go next year! My Only complaint is that it was only 3 days long.

28 would have liked more diverse world music- funk dance bands

29 I prefer rock, jam genre, blues/jazz is not my thing. That being said the bands were very good

30 Fantastic!

31 I always love connecting with solar folks I only see at SolarFest, but attendance seemed definitely down this year. Also.... while I love going, the program in last three years has not seemed very differentiated from each other in terms of the overall festival experience. Workshops changed a lot when the event moved to GMC, new tracks were added when the fest moved to FMN Farm, but things have been in stasis the last few years.

32 The music on Sunday I preferred to that on Saturday and feel the order should have bee swapped. Even though I am not a huge jazz fan, Roomful of Blues gave a great performance which I enjoyed very much. I left after a couple songs of the New Orleans band Sat night. I thought there were less attendees overall this year than last which made it feel a little less festive. Maybe the ticket price hike reduced buy-in. I liked the vendors, most of the music, and the weather was perfect. :-)

33 I'd love to see more in the way of homesteading workshops next year (hands-on).

34 As I was presenting on Saturday, the other workshops I was interested in were all at the same time slot, and as was unable to stay into the late night hours I could not seem to enjoy the musical entertainment as much as I would have liked.

35 Excellent opportunities to network with friends and vendors. Workshops are high quality.

36 Not enough NEW info/exhibitors/workshops on residential energy efficiency and power generation. - - - and other sustainability topics

37 Wonderful festival. I enjoyed the timber frame workshop and all the great music. Wish there was music earlier on Sunday.

38 Wonderful festival! The whole family had a terrffic time. We will be back next year.

39 I did not get to do all I wanted to. And I did end up taking a cold shower Sunday morning. More showers might be a good idea since there were so many that camped. I would even be willing to help with the work involved to make that happen.

40 Never a bad time - sometimes a GREAT time!

41 I liked being a volunteer and meeting other volunteers, who are so great. All 3 days was too much, though-since I was a local/commuting from Granville, NY - I would prefer to volunteer just for 1 day and get a pass for 1 day.

42 AMAZING art wall, great idea

43 The music was great! Although, I was not familiar with a lot of the bands I was blown away by Jon Cleary and friends. I do think there could be more of a mix of interactive workshops, especially during the day. Maybe adding more interactive workshops such as-yoga, tai chi, dance, & food? Wild edible workshops, garden design, medicinal herbs, etc.

44 I think it's time to evaluate what is working and what is not.

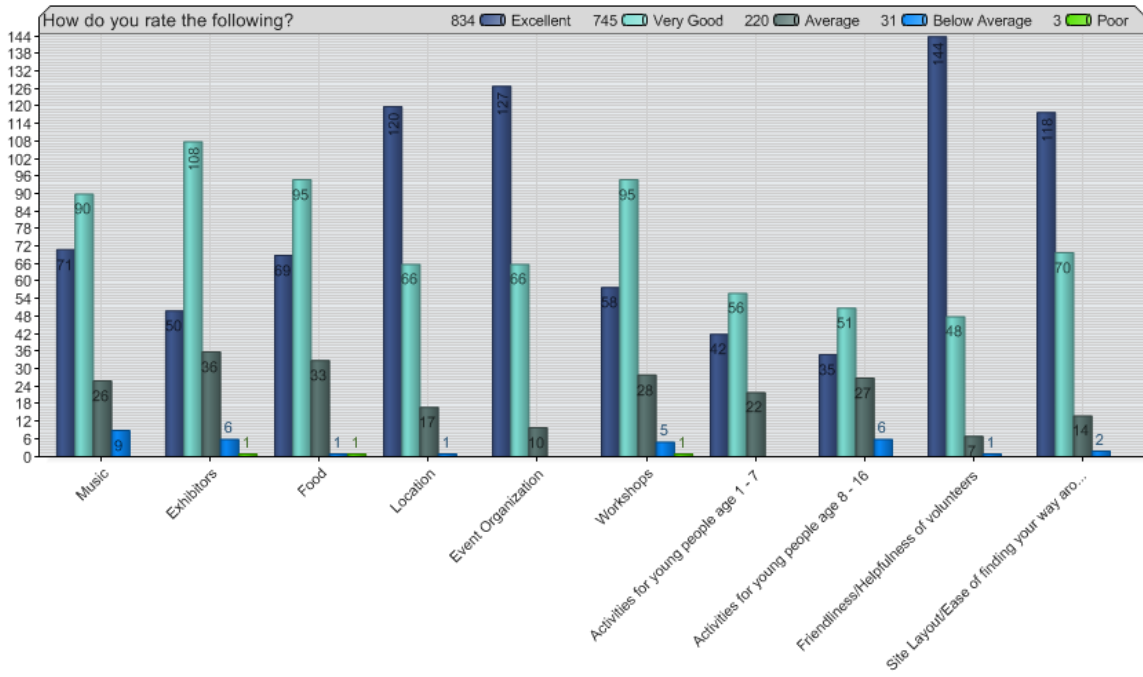
45 Did not get to go to workshops that I wanted to because of time conflicts. Noticed less vendors, lower attendance.

46 The music lineup since my first year has strayed more and more from my interest, I understand that keeping it folky is a safe bet with the family crowd and quells the rowdies, but when I want to enjoy the night show and dance with my friends we need something more

	groovy and inviting than classic rock covers, 80's power ballads, and old timey blues. Can you imagine how many attendees would be absolutely SYKED for a good reggae band?! I remember there being a phenomenal funk band that headlined Saturday night in 2008, that got EVERYone on there feet, not just our parents.
47	the music has been more diverse and therefore better in the past
48	This is a difficult ques. for me since I was not able to partisipate in any of the festivities. I had a family crisis and could only attend for the volunteer time on Fri. and Sat. Sunday I was not able to which I felt bad about as normally I would never shun my responsibility. It appeared that everyone was having a wonderful time that I saw. I was treated with dignity and respect. The grounds were clean. The music was uplifting. Everyone friendly. I have no complaints. My only remark might be that since I was involved in the workshop I felt disappointment on the attendance on Fri. Possibly Fri. workshops for adults might be eliminated or cut back to fewer. Only 3 people attended but Sat. was full and excellent attendance.
49	wasn't there but can;t submit without answer
50	I'll start by saying I'm very glad Solarfest exists. But there's always room for improvement.
51	The attendance appeared to be somewhat smaller this year compared to last year (especially on Saturday)
52	the music was great! Vegan workshop was terrible
53	Would have liked to have seen more exhibitors with items for sale --- flashlights, radios, etc. ---cash and carry specials. Would have liked to have seen vendors with bumper stickers, t-shirts, etc.
54	Very well organized volunteer system. I enjoy your attitude & culture
55	I learn a lot at solarfest -- from other vendors and the attendees.
56	I love the sense of family, community and love there. Also I love the fact that you can be yourself and not feel judged
57	Love the event. In fact I find it essential for connecting and reconnecting with folks. It is an excellent community-building event. I was a bit disappointed with the music this year (usually it blows me away, this time I hardly danced at all!).
58	Workshops just weren't as good this year as in previous years.
59	a little disappointed that Lynn Miles cancelled...was looking forward to seeing her.
60	I enjoyed hearing the music, but as the performer I most wanted to hear didn't come, I was sorry about that. I did like Anjte D. I bought 2 of her cds and one doesn't play. How do I get a replacement or money back?
61	We at MidNite Solar have seen a steady decline in the Renewable Energy stuff and feel a great concern after this year that it may just be a festival not Solar related. We would greatly encourage the board to do something to bring the Installers, Distributors and Manufacturers back to Solar Fest. We have attended other fairs where the fair gave booth space to Installers/Distributors who taught workshops that is just one of many ideas that spring to mind? We would greatly miss going to Solar fest but feel it may not be worth the cost if something is not done to grow the Renewable side of it. We look forward to hearing what the board will do to boost exhibitors for next years Festival? Please keep us informed ryan@midnitesolar.com
62	The music lineup wasn't as bombastic and groovetastic as previous years, but still very enjoyable.
63	The music didn't seem quite as rockin' as past years (totally missed a few favorites -- Dar Williams, of course, Rubblebucket, Xande Cruz, Ember Swift, Break of Reality to name a few). The main Saturday night band was talented, but didn't make me want to get up and dance like a lunatic...which I did EVERY other year!
64	See comment on #11
65	I would, as always, like to see more alternative energy vendors at the festival.
66	We need to get more installers and manufacturers there.
67	it could have only been better with more people attending!
68	workshops were limited in scope and not of the type I wanted from previous years like straw bale building, masonry stoves, hydro power
69	I do think however that one thing is getting out of hand. Folks are setting tents up on the lawn and blocking the view for many of the people behind them. To add insult to injury, many of the tents set up are not even used most of the time but front and center are there and blocking the view of many. of the stage.
70	smaller attendance this year was a bummer. I have ideas to share about budget & attraction.
71	Excellent weekend. First time in a decade that I did not volunteer so it was a bit different. I enjoyed workshops and the music as always...
72	wow I attended so many cool workshops, permaculture, wooffing, raw milk....
73	felt like less people this year.
74	frigging awesome, way beyond our expectations, both with sales and people
75	It was a little hot but it was beautiful otherwise!
76	I think the festival itself is fabulous, but it did not seem like there was anything new, or cutting edge/news breaking this year. It would be great for Solarfest to take the lead on this event nationally, not have it be the same event year after year.
77	Although, the energy, mix and hands-on/grassroots appeal of the workshops I attended were OK they seemed off as compared to past years or what might be acheived . The music was great, Jon Cleary's Philthy Phew wrap-up set Sat. nite before the bonfire was awesome. The original strenth and appeal of the SOLARFEST has and always should be the promotion, education and empowerment of people seeking and then employing alternative energy systems, farming, gardening, recycling, reducing and sustainable energy efficient and durable building methods/practices!! ETC. This is why I rated the 'Workshops' in question #15 as average, it's just my opinion. Don't lose the MUSIC, but it's time to bring the Workshop format to the next level?
78	Sorry. I missed it!

15. How do you rate the following?

	Excellent	Very Good	Average	Below Average	Poor	Total
Music:	71(36.22%)	90(45.92%)	26(13.27%)	9(4.59%)	0(0%)	196
Exhibitors:	50(24.88%)	108(53.73%)	36(17.91%)	6(2.99%)	1(0.5%)	201
Food:	69(34.67%)	95(47.74%)	33(16.58%)	1(0.5%)	1(0.5%)	199
Location:	120(58.82%)	66(32.35%)	17(8.33%)	1(0.49%)	0(0%)	204
Event Organization:	127(62.56%)	66(32.51%)	10(4.93%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	203
Workshops:	58(31.02%)	95(50.8%)	28(14.97%)	5(2.67%)	1(0.53%)	187
Activities for young people age 1 - 7:	42(35%)	56(46.67%)	22(18.33%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	120
Activities for young people age 8 - 16:	35(29.41%)	51(42.86%)	27(22.69%)	6(5.04%)	0(0%)	119
Friendliness/Helpfulness of volunteers:	144(72%)	48(24%)	7(3.5%)	1(0.5%)	0(0%)	200
Site Layout/Ease of finding your way around:	118(57.84%)	70(34.31%)	14(6.86%)	2(0.98%)	0(0%)	204
Total Responded to this question:					205	98.09%
Total who skipped this question:					4	1.91%
Total:					209	100%



16. Additional Comments on Question #14?

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	74	100%
Total Responded to this question:	74	35.41%
Total who skipped this question:	135	64.59%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

16. Additional Comments on Question #14?

Response	Response Text
1	I haven't done most of these yet--hard to rate
2	broke my bike hard to walk up to camp how about a fenicular ?
3	I love Solarfest!!!!
4	Since there's no cell service (and that's what I use as a timepiece) it might be fun to have a few sundials around the property. It'd be helpful, and would go along with the theme.
5	no rain! :)
6	Signs could be made to slide in to or hang on the tent name and sponsor board outside of the tents that have the name of the workshop visible from a distance. Often I found myself just walking around browsing the workshops and it would help to see the title of the workshop outside. Also it would reassure people that they are in the right spot for the workshop they are looking for. The food vendors could be given more space and allow them to create cafes with shaded tables for eating and relaxing. Each could have a distinct feel and leave their customers with a special experience. A late night cafe with acoustic music could be really nice for those who aren't interested in listening to the really loud music. Public computers and a wifi area with outlets could be beneficial and appreciated as well.
7	Well-organized, excellent event. Learning opportunities have yet to exceed my capacity for energy habit modification.
8	we missed the bakers w/ the basil bread. not enough ice cream :(
9	none
10	Need more shade tents.
11	I love Solarfest but the energy this year seemed low. Everyone works so hard and the volunteers are really wonderful, but from a fresh perspective (first year volunteer) I think we can improve.
12	walk-in camping no portable toilet, and no running water.
13	I had my toddler with me, so could not attend any workshops, but did find some of interest in the program.
14	I do not have any kids so I would assume that the activities provided for the young ones were as good as the the workshops that I attended. Also, I never actually made it over to look at many of the vendors but I am sure that they were excellent too.
15	Not much place for trash, trash Networking is very valuable. Might do camping or eating zones by area of interest. Perhaps organise to encourage more networking... introductions, break out groups...
16	Comments on Question #15. I don't have kids, so can't answer the questions about young people.
17	The some of "best" bands were at awkward hours More little kid activities would be nice- the toys are nice but I'd love to see more things like parachute games, or cool art projects/experiments
18	What was point of song writing? Daughter walked out. Need MORE vendors. Increase food choices. Brick oven pizza RULES!!! YOU NEED TO REVAMP WORKSHOP CONTENT TO BRING IN NEW / MORE PEOPLE. You are preaching to the choir. Need to expand audience.
19	What was point of song writing? Daughter walked out. Need MORE vendors. Increase food choices. Brick oven pizza RULES!!! YOU NEED TO REVAMP WORKSHOP CONTENT TO BRING IN NEW / MORE PEOPLE. You are preaching to the choir. Need to expand audience.
20	Being with someone who had difficulty walking, the handicapped bathroom seemed far and poorly lit. Anyway to get it closer to stage area?
21	At times, the loud music made it difficult to hear what was being said in the workshops (particularly in the afternoon workshops)
22	Too many activities cancelled - Solar Generation Herb Walk instructor a no show, Kids Yoga cancelled, Roots and Shoots cancelled, West African dance moved to Main Stage where it was too hot to dance in the sun
23	The best event!
24	Add some more local musicians
25	Really can't comment on activities/workshops for young people, other than the fact that the kids around us seemed extremely happy!
26	Had trouble finding some of the workshops as they were not at the tent site. Not sure where they took place.
27	The solar showers have a great sign on it about how it works, but it could be bigger and more graphical. Same thing would be helpful with the onsite PV systems. They need easy graphical flowcharts describing how they work.
28	Did you mean on question 15? I can't rate the parts I didn't see, meant to hit the workshops but didn't make it back in time for most of them, and skipped the rest to shop & hang out with my friends. Hooray for the soap vendor! :-)
29	(I am guessing you mean Question 15) The volunteer staff was much more diligent this year in attempting to be helpful. I don't think I have ever been approached before with an offer of sun-screen. Security, EMS and help for infirm was obvious but not oppressively available. Casual seating in the Arena might be increased.
30	I think you mean additional comments on Q 15 - - Love that the first aid people were pushing the sunscreen. Didn't seem like a big crowd on Sunday. The worm workshop was excellent!!!! and I also enjoyed the weed walk (too negative a name though!). But not

inspired by other workshop topics or the couple that I poked my head into.

31 Beautiful site for a festival

32 Those that were paying attention were very friendly. Many were not paying attention. Volunteers often more interested in what they were doing than in supporting attendees. They often blocked paths and entrances talking to other volunteers.

33 My son also came and volunteered and he really had a good time. My Girlfriend's daughter (12) came and I could not tell for sure how she liked it, but I think she did. She did not participate in any of the activities, but that was her choice.

34 I hate to complain but this was easily the least impressed I've been with the music. Dar Williams, Ember Swift, Xande Cruz, Barefoot Truth, and especially Rubblebucket (LOVE THEM!) could've been used. In the future it would be great if the music could be a little more worldly and a little less folksy....and I love folksy believe me...but drop a little Reggae on me or something.....

35 I think some of the "organizational" stuff was way over the top. I did not need a 90 minute training on what to do at the workshop. (read the script, pass out surveys, etc.) The workshop team overall was fantastic- helpful to the presenters and each other. As a workshop volunteer, I tried to be super nice and welcomed people, made room for them, and did my best to make people smile.

36 My teenager was a little bored, but she enjoyed theatre in the woods.

37 I think the organization and volunteer staff do a great job

38 Staff folks that my band and I dealt with were extremely helpful, friendly, and professional. Everyone in the band (and guests of the band) agreed that SF was very well-run and the production values (i.e., sound, stage, etc.) were all top-notch.

39 I prefer not to dwell on the negative of the Fri. workshop because I am sure you already have a handle on the ones that did well or otherwise. It had nothing to do with the speakers or subject material. Although I felt some of it might be a little too PHD. for the common person? Only 3 people were in my tent and one lady left early, not willing to fill a survey. Of course I have no clue how Sun. did but I do know that Sat. was a huge success and everyone in that workshop was extremely pleased with at least 50 % filling out the survey's with no problem. I do hope the feedback was positive. I came behind a volunteer who didn't seem to know that there were pencils or where to place the clock as he was asked the time more than once by the speaker. All in all for the time I was there I considered it a positive experience. I am hoping I will be able to attend next year and be more involved. It has peaked my interest and I have told many of my friends about it.

40 On regarding Question #15 where I didn't rate I wasn't involved enough to have an opinion

41 Did you mean question #15?

42 Would like a workshop on making a root cellar, small livestock care (goats, sheep). Talk about Germany and its green efforts was boring at times --- speaker didn't have a lot of specifics to share -- responded to most questions with "I don't know." Like to see a better keynote speaker --- for example, Naomi Kline, Derrik Jensen, Van Jones.

43 The music this year was not as good as years in the past. Dwayne Carlton is so boring. Not a lot of new and different workshops... they tend to repeat too much. Not a lot to inspire the 8-16 yr age group.

44 I wish there was more variety of food, or more food that was heartily satisfying. I loved having the workshops for both adults and kids along side having music. That was a perfect mix for me, same was said by a lot of people I spoke with. Great idea about the free ice cream to get stickers for the kids, my son was a bit young for the workshops but I used the idea to encourage him to stay in the kids tents while I did a few workshops without him and then I got him ice cream at the end.

45 My feeling is that most festival goers are only mildly interested in solar and most people who are actively seeking to buy solar are not that comfortable with the festival scene.

46 Maybe a few more places to sit & relax in the fields and near the outside vendors would be nice.

47 Need some better food options as it seems the food quality of the same old vendors has diminished since last year... and No Simosa Man again was a sad thing indeed.

48 The vegan workshop was not well organized. The cook locally workshop was great.

49 Odd mix of keynote, music and exhibitors. Would like to see more vendors/exhibitors.

50 The three questions left un-answered are because I did not attend any workshops and did not observe the activities for young people.

51 awesome

52 small issues were: Signage in Tinmouth was poor and we had to ask directions. This, of course, was partly our fault because we didn't bring directions. We just assumed that Tinmouth was small enough to find our way around. Also, our kids attended workshops all weekend and earned enough stickers for a free ice cream (a great idea!) By the time they were ready to collect on Sunday, there was no ice cream left. Although Solarfest gave them bumper stickers, they would have loved the ice cream on such a hot day.

53 For people in southern New England...Solarfest tends to be "out in the sticks" beyond where most people will travel.... It's evident the organizers put much time and effort into the event and do a great job..I only wish more people would attend. I liked the idea of movies for kids, but how about adults? Showing "Fresh" or "King Corn" or similar movies that foster discussion.....

54 I had given my tickets to the women at the tent. Went about my way, found a campsite. One of them tracked me down and said I hadn't paid. Of course I had, and showed her my letter. Maybe there could be some improvement here.

55 I did not get to see as much of the entertainment/exhibits/presentations as I would have liked. As a vendor, however, your festival is one of the easiest and best organized that we exhibit at. My only comment would be that vending booths could be slightly more spaced out (22 ft of frontage instead of 20 even). Other than that, keep up the good work!

56 would have liked more of a political edge and less green capitalist stuff. Increasingly we need a climate change movement, not individual market-driven solutions.

57 We are very satisfied with my wife attending the SOLAR FEST, it's great & fun we enjoyed a lot.

58 We had attended pv 101 and batteries before. We would have liked to see more about microhydro/wind. also how to manage your solar after you get it. We just purchased a system for our off grid home and are still learning about it. Also what appliances are best.

59 The workshop tents could have better air circulation by rolling the sides up off the ground a few feet.


60 The workshop tents could have better air circulation by rolling the sides up off the ground a few feet.

61 I wish it was more motorcycle friendly. I think people on motorcycles, who like to camp, might be interested in coming.

62 I like the music this year, but noticed that there wasn't the variety of genres that I had seen in the past. The kids attended one of the Solar Generation workshops about Vegan food, and felt that the leader wasn't very knowledgeable.

- 63 I LOVE the solar-showers and even enjoy when there gets to be a long wait -- so many nice people around. I also really appreciate the sunblock availability and that volunteers come to the main stage to offer it. Small thing, but definitely helped me out this year!
- 64 a second smoker's corral would have been nice, especially if it were sited further up the hill towards the tents.
- 65 It seemed that several attendees had not read the program completely (or at all) and some were even surprised to hear that there were workshops and wondered where they were! We should consider maps posted throughout the festival ground with the notation "you are here".
- 66 Again, there should be a limit on how close to the stage tents can be. I know that folks need shade if its really sunny but this year in particular, things really seemed over the top.
- 67 I don't know these days about the youngster offerings.
- 68 The music didn't really appeal to me this year. The previous year rubblebucket and entrain were there. Those bands did a great job on Saturday night.
- 69 Didn't like the Poison Parsnip (but thanks for the warning sign). Workshops seemed too spread out. Vendor area and tent were nice.
- 70 There were so many activities for young children and kids 11 an older. I would encourage more meaningful activities for the 8-11 year age group---would help with that too. There were so many kids activities, actually felt lie a bit too much---the times conflicted and such, may be a way to save dollars? THe solar generation track is so great! The kids are really motivated by the ice cream sticker, thank you. Ideas for next year---build a sun dial; solar powered toys; repeat some of the solar generation workshops? Like Solar oven; Stargazing/understanding the weather...
- 71 How about a vetted list of suppliers and installers of renewable equipment in various locations? I was asked for this by a guy from NY. I could give him some names from around here, but not over the border. A presence by The Renewable Energy Resource Center (VEIC), who approve grants in VT for renewable equipment.
- 72 did you mean comments for question 15? More activities for 8-16 crowd please.
- 73 I would have liked longer music sets with the musicians. 45 mins per act is really a tease. Mabye a full hour. Seems like such a short amount of time to perform for such a distance to travel for them. But I was impressed with the sound and ease of equipment changes. And the variety was great.
- 74 We all want to come back. Several people had trouble finding the Thriving Locally tent, so the signage could have been better for that tent. Pit toilet maintenance was fantastic: cleanest I've ever seen pit toilets and consistently so.
- 75 Keep the music, in spite of anything I implied in #14. Maybe the music needs to be enhanced to grow the crowds, the numbers, to get more younger people involved?? Some might stray over to and linger a bit at a workshop. ONE IDEA?? Maybe its time to develop a series of recordable, and sellable, DVD's that educate and promote the alt. energy issues and promte the festival. I realize that this would necessitate growing the org. and employing more paid staff. This may not be the direction you want to go, especially considering the large volunteer aspect and all.
- 76 Would always love to see more vegan food and a reduction of food related waste. Had an awesome time though.

17.
In your opinion, what does SolarFest do well?

	Responses	Percent
Responses: 	150	100%
Total Responded to this question:	150	71.77%
Total who skipped this question:	59	28.23%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

17.
 In your opinion, what does SolarFest do well?

Response	Response Text
1	Everything
2	nice family fun
3	Everything!!!
4	everything
5	The music, food and vendors are always top-notch! It's what I look forward to every year!
6	The volunteers are tremendous. The festival is organized, clean and safe.
7	Relaxed, alternative culture
8	Organization, creating a great community environment, friendliness, making people feel good
9	brings similar people together in one field for an awesome weekend.
10	Being here, taking the initiative to bring people together and share ideas. The event is very well organized. It has a beautiful spirit. The kids seem very happy here as well which is great for drawing families.
11	Vendors, events, music
12	Get musicians. knowledgeable workshop leaders.
13	Spread the word on Renewable Energy
14	Demonstrates solar and how to build a community around it, raise awareness of what we can do and how to do it. Its great to be in a large group of like minded people with many diverse interests and perspectives.
15	It's a great mix of education & entertainment; people can come for the music and happen to learn a lot, or come for the workshops and relax with music. Great blend.
16	The program is an excellent site guide. I reviewed stuff online but waited to arrive to receive the printed program. It also provides a resource for information, for myself and to share with others after the event. Site management is well done. The consistent expectation of respect creates an extremely positive environment.
17	It connects people and businesses to each other that may they don't they exist in the renewable field.
18	creates community around great music, philosophy and stewardship
19	outreach, networking resources
20	music, vendors
21	Music is awesome. Love the collection of exhibitors.
22	Solarfest connects to people. It's emphasis on sustainability and then modeling that concept at the festival is remarkable.
23	Very good.
24	Education and bringing knowledgeable people together.
25	well designed for families / incorporation of young children
26	Good spirit and sense of community.
27	SolarFest is incredibly well organized. I was easily able to find everything, and didn't wear myself out walking. I love that Solar Fest is Zero Waste. I hope more festivals catch on! The location is gorgeous. I love the variety of workshops. It also made me happy to have music most of the day (and part of the night) every day. Loved the mix of exhibitors and vendors. Having a great band like Roomful of Blues that plays dance music last was a great way to end the festival. The volunteers were friendly and helpful. So much so that it made me want to volunteer. Unfortunately, I missed the Solar Fest tour, but I love that there are so many opportunities to learn about sustainable energy sources.
28	Great people, organization, performances
29	Meet the needs of many ages, and many wishes.
30	Educate and entertain!
31	organize waste recycling and providing gatorade and sun tan lotion was excellent... and fresh water stations!
32	LOCATION!!!!!!!! Just love camping out on the farm. Eclectic music mix, GREAT.
33	LOCATION!!!!!!!! Just love camping out on the farm. Eclectic music mix, GREAT.

34	Educating the public about sustainable homesteading and becoming independent from corporations (off the grid)
35	Provides a great community of conscience rising and awareness in a friendly fun environment- For all ages. Allows our group of friends to enjoy a great spot in Vermont and share all that is special about this state. Music. Food. Education. Fun. Thankyou
36	Music
37	Bring together like-minded people to share knowledge, play and have fun, and enjoy being together.
38	music is awesome, workshop selection gets better every year
39	teach
40	Bring people together with good intentions
41	Solarfest has a way of really getting the message of alternative energy out into the world. I liked talking to some of the people at the tents about how to improve simple things in everyday life that could make a difference in the world today
42	Offering something for everyone: family, adults, students, people of all ages and backgrounds
43	The music was wonderful and the volunteers did a wonderful job handing out sunscreen and gatorade
44	Music and overall message
45	gather like minded people together for an awesome weekend at, really, a dirt cheap price
46	Provides environmental education in a laid-back atmosphere.
47	I like the family atmosphere and really appreciate the no alcohol sales. Wonderful organization, helpful, friendly staff, great workshops. I also appreciate the fact that all programs are done well and everyone is very prepared.
48	Everything!
49	The workshops are very detailed and presenters are highly knowledgable about their subjects.
50	Organization, friendliness of staff and volunteers, getting the word out about alternative energy sources, appeals to all age groups.
51	Grouping information together in one location.
52	SolarFest has great workshops. I heard the term "sustainability conference" this year and thought, "yeah, that's totally what SolarFest is all about!" After many years of the event, I think intermediate and advanced hands-on activities are where the event could have the most impact. Many entry level resources are available now online and through other forums.
53	This year I was glad to be able to find paper napkins, last year it was as if they'd been banned and lunchtimes were thus quite messy. I enjoyed the festival, and thank you for access to free water. Those are the small things. The big things were all great, but I tend to get caught up in the small ones :-). I loved all the banners on the way in.
54	Brings people together in a great environment to learn and celebrate
55	There is a very good healthy and happy atmosphere at Solarfest. I think it is a great value.
56	Yes
57	ALL undertakings are completed with excellence
58	Gathering like minded folks together, developing community, and sharing ideas. I like the hands-on workshops, and technical information on energy efficiency, technology and sustainability practices.
59	Solar Fest does an excellent job connecting the different factions of sustainability whether it be on the agricultural or environmental front. The movements are operating in two different trajectories and here they are brought together on one farm, however multiple tents.
60	Solarfest creates an wonderful, friendly environment- Even just for one weekend- that surprises me every year. Fantastic!
61	The most important part for me was definitely the workshops. I loved the hands on shitaake mushroom production workshop, and the local mushrooms one. Additionally, the season garden extension workshop was very informative. Additionally, as a volunteer, the free food and casual environment made it an extremely pleasant experience. As a parking lot volunteer, it could have been miserable, but the company and proximity of food made it quite nice.
62	creates an environment for very passionate people--most seem to already be members of the choir. I think Solarfest needs to work on bringing in solar novices so they can join the movement.
63	Provides an educational forum to join vendors and experts in the renewable energy field with the public in an enjoyable family friendly atmosphere.
64	Wicked organized, friendly, the site is awesome, music is great
65	Everything. It is affordable, the music is wonderful and I love the workshops.
66	We love SolarFest for providing a safe, well organized environment where we can spend a relaxing and educational weekend with our family. We love the friendliness and the atmosphere.
67	Have solar systems running the show.
68	I really saw this as more of a music festival under the sun that also had vendors and workshops. I also feel that this festival really gets across the point that solar is a viable option.
69	Everything! (except the music this year) which isn't to say it was bad it just wasn't nearly as good as years past....
70	Pretty much everything- the workshops, the music & activities, and the site is spectacular. The hosts are the greatest for sharing the farm. Many people in the (non-profit) booths are so friendly, it was great to come later in the day and just talk to them and learn more about their programs.
71	Music and bonfires.
72	Create a celebratory, educational, healthy environment that lends itself perfectly to great communal fun and energy. The vibe is exactly right.
73	EVERYTHING BRO
74	Very well organized. Nice family festival. Workshops seem very informative and the music was great. Theater in the woods was also a

blast!

75 It keeps us informed about any changes and new innovations. Good music, good food, mellow crowd

76 provide a unique, safe gathering of the tribes where folks can learn and share sustainable activities and listen to good music

77 Very well organized, good music picks, publicity

78 Very organized. Volunteers are terrific. Festival is clean, friendly and safe.

79 Gives me hope in the world, humanity, and the future. At least in Vermont.

80 The community, the security (I wish we could bottle Marshall's attitude), the excitement of learning about alternative energy.

81 Inspires and encourages folks to think about their own energy useage and how to steer the world in a more energy-sustainable direction.

82 You put alot of hard work into this event to make it fun and educational at the same time. There was something for everyone of all ages. I did take the time to walk around and everyone seemed happy. It was very well organized. The facilities were clean and there were plenty of them and placed well. The food was a welcome treat for the volunteers and no one went hungry..or should have!

83 relevant topics, issues of grave importance, multiple pathways to explore, music, art, expression through song and dance. A sense of community as it should be/strong, compassionate, humane. THE GREEN MOUNTAINS.

84 The workshops are what I'm most interested in. So I'm glad they are there. I like talking to the vendors.

85 SolarFest does well with promoting the technologies and companies doing alternative energy

86 Bring together like-minded friends of solar energy.

87 music, vendors, food

88 Everything.

89 Great location and parking. Enjoy the grease cars and electric cars. Great people/volunteers, silent auction. Enjoyed the backyard poultry workshop. Want to take the tour some year. Glad to see more activities for teenagers, older children.

90 Provides lots of interesting things to see and do, good workshops, stuff for the kids, music for all ages, friendliness, working solar systems

91 As always the volunteers are so delightful. It is evident that a lot of hard work by volunteers is one of the most dynamic aspects of the festival.

92 A great blend of music and education, various options for camping with camping in the woods being one of the options, I loved that all the food bought there was served with all recyclable containers. I loved the kids activities/play area, and the offering of multiple weed walks. Easy access to water was great.

93 The location is nice.

94 Workshops & theater in the woods! Pulling together the whole "package" of events and people on that wonderful site is so well done.

95 everything :)

96 Provide a venue for more technical people to get together to discuss renewable energy issues. I don't have kids but it looks like the kids programs are great as well.

97 Support originality and make an environment that is pleasant!

98 I really enjoy the music playing constantly, as well as the bonfire, contra dancing, and sense of positive community

99 See above.

100 The event is always presented well and the sound and light quality of the event are top notch. The site coordinators do a great job keeping things running and keeping people happy and safe.

101 workshops

102 Solarfest informs and entertains and provides an all-around wonderful time. Thank you!

103 Promote sustainable energy three ways: educational (worekshops); by commerce (vendors) and with great solar-popowered music and keynote speakers!

104 cater to people who are serious about being green and loving life in an intimate way

105 The organization and signage is fabulous. Port a potties are always clean. Volunteers everywhere answering questions, and we love the zero waste policy. It is probably the best organized festival we have been to, and we especially love that it is so safe for the kids.

106 Provides a forum for idea exchange.

107 Very welcoming and safe. Delicious food. Wonderful vendors. Great volunteers. Good camping opportunities. Eclectic selection of music. Cool bonfire.

108 The music and workshops are great....again...just wish we can get more attendees, to give the musicians more of an audience and vendors more customers. As a volunteer, I felt I was treated well...volunteer food was very good, thanks....the home-made cookies at dinner were a nice treat!

109 Expose the public to solar and alternate energy ideas and also bring some good musicians in. I like the showcase, and the local singers getting their two songs.

110 GREAT volunteers, really strong organization, interesting events/workshops.

111 The food vendors and volunteer staff is great the fair is well organized and runs very smoothly from what we can see.

112 great at getting environmentally conscious people together in one place for a long weekend

113 It's great, specially all the activities.

114 Bring people together, provide lots of information and opportunities to network, and provide an inexpensive way to exhibit.

115 I think the location is spectacular, the entertainment great, the food is great, the size is manageable, I like the vendors and I like the workshops. Most years we have too many workshops that we want to attend and not enough time.

116	Positive vibes, information, food and drawing interesting people.
117	Education
118	Education
119	Workshops, food, organization
120	Innovative programming on aspects not covered elsewhere (e.g., growing rice in Vermont)
121	Pretty much everything, (except make money) I hope you at least cover your costs. Thank you for keeping it so affordable.
122	Building a great sense of community with a strong, powerful event
123	everything. epically the cleanest festival i've ever been to. Great effin' vibes.
124	spreads the word about energy independence and opportunities while providing a wonderful musical atmosphere!
125	Welcoming attitude, helpful staff.
126	Good variety of exhibitors. Like the zero-waste stations. Love the variety of music and vendors. Encourages people to think about the impacts of their actions.
127	the music and the community is great. The vendors there are all really helpful and friendly, as well as the volunteers/ staff.
128	Everything!
129	I love the community feel of putting on an awesome event that is very family friendly. Love main stage music and family stage/kid's corner.
130	presentations, organizing, welcoming attitude, music...tho this year some saturday music was a little rough, bringing people together to network & reinvigorate.
131	Move people around for education... stellar music....
132	The workshops were excellent. The community is even better. Keep it up! :)
133	workshops, safe environment for family, zero waste
134	Promotes Solar energy. Music.
135	well organized, friendly environment
136	There were many vendors of various alternative energy products which was great.
137	knowledge of presenters is awesome!
138	organization, education, fun and sustainability
139	Lots. Diverse offerings, great music and positive energy/
140	make it fun! friendliness. But we could do better - like the two teens who sat next to the recycling station, saying nothing, ignoring adults (as usual)
141	Variety, very well-organized, high production value
142	Solarfest is great for those who already know about sustainable and renewable energy and want a place to learn more as well as enjoy good music.
143	Music and workshops
144	SHOW (more so than tell) how common folk can change the world.
145	Recycles! Takes very good care of its volunteers! Offers a very wide spectrum of workshops and educational opportunities.
146	Solarfest is very organized, and they have the festival "down." Communication with the volunteers is great, and organizationally, that seems to be in good order too.
147	Making it's purpose happen.
148	Has a variety of workshops for all interests and ages. We'll have to come back because there were many that overlapped with others of interest to us.
149	All in all, you're doing a great job. I'm sorry that I live so far away or haven't found the time to participate in a greater and more meaningful way.
150	Well I would be there for the exhibitors, food, socializing, and maybe a workshop or two if they were right up my alley.
151	Good workshop with lots of different things. Wish I had time for all of them!
152	Well organized and good diversity of workshops

18.
In your opinion, where do we have opportunities for improvement?

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	139	100%
Total Responded to this question:	139	66.51%
Total who skipped this question:	70	33.49%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

18.
 In your opinion, where do we have opportunities for improvement?

Response	Response Text
1	vendors seemed less than previous years
2	None needed
3	solar powered or winter born ICE MAKERS
4	more vendors, more workshops (less overlapping)
5	Your prices could be lowered a bit - as I said above, they're a great deal, but a lot of people I know can't afford a ticket because of today's economy.
6	site latout
7	Shade in the smoking section, please!
8	I'd appreciate more food source workshops - ways to live more locally and sustainably - that are not necessarily focused on farming and/or Vermont specific.
9	the cost of tickets, more for teenagers, better music
10	the late night music was better last year.
11	Like I mentioned earlier, more practice and discussion of lifestyle change to manage our energy use on a holistic level. We have to learn how to live more simply using really only what we need. Also, at least the option, if not entirely, the use of composting toilets.
12	Encourage no cigarette smoking. That is pollution, too.
13	Larger choice of food vendors, some evening lighting of the vendor area
14	Sometimes the workshop presenters could use a little more skill as public speakers. Didn't go to any this year, though, so I can't comment specifically.
15	Many workshops were geared towards intro level or professional practice. Some would benefit from intermediate level offerings, especially in the agriculture area.
16	More vendors from other areas. That way you are expanding the scope of the festival.
17	keep bringing more folks here
18	fine tuning....
19	TICKET PRICES SEEM TO HIGH, ESPECIALLY FOR PEOPLE WANTING TO COME FOR PORTION OF A DAY
20	workshops: shorter in length, perhaps offered more than once per weekend
21	More shade.
22	Improve content of workshops. Accommodate the fact that many returnees may be interested in a higher level of information. E.g. the weed walk covers the same plants year after year and might be more interesting if an intro. and higher level walk were offered. Also, a gentle but serious comment about content: the educational messages should be seriously considered. Our guide was very scattered, e.g. tossing out medicinal uses but never info. on care or dosage, so the impression was that one could simply ingest these herbs to treat whatever ailment. Some of the info. was just plain irresponsible--St. John's Wort is *not* "for HIV"! (I was particularly taken aback by this misinformation, because I work in the field and see the devastation caused when someone thinks an herb or sexual practice will protect them from the virus.)
23	Marketing, road signage, workshop signage, connecting to new audiences, better connections to local food movement, better communication during the event, bring back the opening parade, generate more hipe during the festival....
24	More shower rooms to be installed.
25	After attending for a few years now I would be interested in seeing more in depth knowledge transfer (i.e more advanced topics).
26	The food tent (where people sit to eat food) should be shadier. Every time we tried to sit down to eat during the day, small groups of people who had finished eating and were just sitting and talking had hogged all the shade. Also, the food tent should be bigger. Few people sat in the middle because the tables were too close together. Also, maybe a volunteer could clean the tables every so often. I cleaned up my spot, and a few others, but people were really making a mess and leaving it. Maybe a sign asking people to clean up after themselves? The schedule wasn't clear enough to me the way it was laid out, as far as times go. I often couldn't tell if something started at 9:00 or 9:15 (for example). I just showed up early if I had a question. Would like to see more sustainable ag. vendors. Would like to see the bonfire hours extended.
27	Let's get something new in the mix...
28	I never understand why the Fest is not overflowing with attendees....is it advertising that makes the difference?
29	I know I might be asking alot but maybe If I have to chosemore showers. Maybe ice sales, we did not mind heading into town but

- we would not have gone if there was ice for sale.
- 30 bring in bigger musical acts
- 31 Add more gardening and energy related topics. Less politics. Some topics seem "tired." Found ALL Thriving Locally "lame". Green building workshops were sleepers Need to bring in some heavy hitters like Eliot Coleman (in fact, his daughter just wrote a book), Dervaes Family, Joel Salatin, Erik Knutzen and Kelly Coyne, Patti Moreno, the Garden Girl. More on wind power, micro-power. canning, pest control. Solar classes "lacked enthusiasm." Where was High Mowing Seeds?
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- 33 Closer parking available for those of us presenting. I promise to move my car after my hour presentation!!!
- 34 Regional publicity
- 35 Scheduling/commitment of workshop presenters
- 36 Music, music, music! Music to check out from local artists: Eugene Uman-vermont jazz center Tem Blessed (hip-Hop) - <http://www.temblessed.com/> Groove Shoes (funk, jazz, soul, dance band) - www.grooveshoesmusic.com Flabberghaster (rock, funk, fusion) www.flabberghaster.com Shokazoba (Afrobeat) www.shokazoba.com The Devil Makes Three (blue grass) www.thedevilmakesthree.com Heather Maloney (singer song writer) www.heathermaloney.com Jatoba (groove, grass, funk) www.jatobamusic.net
- 37 More ice cream:)
- 38 would like to see more cash and carry items for sale that would bring me one step closer to where i am hoping to be. like solar ovens, i bring 500.00 dollars to spend every year,i would like to spend it but only on practical goods,oya and the food,great stuff
- 39 As said above, there needs to be a better focus. As is, it seems as if things are a mile wide and an inch deep and a lot of the workshops aren't especially accessible for those who don't own a home or plan to build one.
- 40 i feel that you guys could get more exhibits involving interaction with the younger people to spread the message of alternative energy
- 41 Make the event longer.
- 42 Maybe try to alternate music performances with workshops so that attending one doesn't force an attendee to miss a desired band (or workshop)
- 43 One way to solidify what people take away from the workshops might be to give them 'homework' or some way to link people in other ways beyond the festival. An example might be to elicit volunteers/group leaders to plan a site visit to a location mentioned in the presentation like the rice growing project or a energy efficient house tour. Or, a team of workers might be assembled to meet participant needs (e.g. house projects, garden consultation, etc.)
- 44 Some minor scheduling snafus, workshop tents too hot to be comfortable, or would have attended more.
- 45 Need more vendors
- 46 With a lot of competition with other events that weekend, I think SolarFest should consider what elements are really drawing people to the event. Personally, I would bet it's the workshops over anything else. It is for me. And the socializing with solar folks. I would have workshops and hands-on activities, games, adventures, and treks all day and have a nighttime concert, dance, and separate evening activities. The festival really could use more hands-on activities during the event appropriate for ADULTS. A lot of new programming has been kid-oriented, which is great, but I'm not a kid and I don't have kids. Frankly, as the festival has oriented itself more toward family-centricism, I feel a little alienated as a responsible adult without children. The pre-festival workshops sound great, but I can't attend them due to work. I would love to participate in building solar-powered art, creating a new sun puppet gate... maybe an ultimate frisbee game.
- 47 This year seemed smaller somehow, less well attended. I might be way off. Also, you have a lot of opportunities to use solar powered art in the evening and I didn't see much of that, but maybe I'm the only night owl. Plus the lighting on the stage might be plenty. :-) I was glad that the snooty parking only for hybrids (ie rich people who can pay \$40Gs for a car) was less obvious this year.
- 48 The music was a bit unimpressive except for John Cleary. He was great.
- 49 Traffic flow in the parking areas. A second opening in the hedgerow at the top of the lot for participants to exit the venue. Traffic flow gets complicated and frustrating at times for driver.
- 50 More in-depth workshops
- 51 Getting new participants, new vendors, advertising to the vendor community. Also: how to organize communities, I think NOFA VT does this well, teaching practitioners to organize their communities to make their peers ready for sustainable towns.
- 52 The band schedules were a bit iffy this year, but I feel as though that's already an issue brought to your attention.
- 53 I was looking forward to photovoltaics 101 because I was confused about the actual process of electricity production. Unfortunately, the workshop did not provide good information about the actual workings of the device. Instead, it focused almost entirely on examples of systems. Having a hands on demonstration with solar panels would resolve this problem. And while the speaker was charming and knew his stuff, he wasn't very good at conferring the information I needed, possibly because he has been in the field so long that he doesn't know what people outside of the field don't know.
- 54 To get the late teens/early 20's people there, these are future homeowners--you need to improve on the music selection and market more on social networks
- 55 I would be pleased if you can continue to do as well as you have!
- 56 Need to refresh and renew - - - - need to have a clearer focus on the energy component - - - what is it? what can people expect? what is the purpose?
- 57 Possibly a few more shade tents for the music.
- 58 The biggest is in the showers, in that more would be nice. Another thing that has just become a reality is solar lighting in the porta-potties. The other is some sort of transportation from the volunteer area to our work sites. That is a long and arduous walk.
- 59 Music
- 60 the 2 guys doing "sales" of solar energy, who sat all day in their folding chairs, blocking their own displays and just ignoring potential customers, need to go. Also, all the workshop presenters need help on how to present- such as practicing the presentation, and please use Spell check before you come!

61	Some of the bands were a little disappointing this year. Sorry I can't remember which one. I think it was just before the New Orleans piano player. (That act was great though.)
62	We REALLY missed the random joyful signs beckoning us toward Tinmouth this year.
63	nuthn
64	Workshops geared toward college students/young adults.
65	a place to cool down would be helpful
66	In reevaluating the format Incorporate activities that would interest local attendance Have better quality musical acts that occur after workshops are over; offer evening admission to pay for music/subsidize day passes???
67	Maybe a beginner and advanced track for workshops, 1/2 day intensives
68	Would be nice to have Continuing Ed credits available for certain workshops (for Architects, Engineers, etc.)
69	Why, oh why, isn't there a big sundial?!?! Or some sort of central clock at least for us crazies who have shunned the shackles of individual time pieces. I think it would give an overall better blanket of continuity and help people reach there workshopd and performances on time.
70	Cost, bringing in others so you're not "preaching to the choir."
71	Possibly in the PR area; if the festival appealed to a broader cross-section of the population, it might help attract others than those who already "get it".
72	The volunteer food this year was very limited.
73	the smoking area shouldn't be on the main path. the festival was downwind from the smoking area
74	Possibly the music could be a lower tone when the speakers are doing workshops. Louder in the evenings after workshops? As I sd. previous, possibly eliminate Fri. adult workshops, (or some of them)? Make sure that the volunteers are clear that they have a JOB to do for the speakers and need to know what is important in regard to the workshop. Knowing they do have pencils and survey's to pass out, not just place on the chairs. Knowing where to pass the clock ect. One on one with the people is quite important, I believe. A smile doesn't cost a thing.
75	Hard to say,but ideas for improvements are always there.They usually arise when you least expect it.for me they often come when i am quiet and and attentive to other around me.
76	Overall I'm very happy with Solarfest and am very appreciative of what your doing and trying to achieve. I know It would be hard to improve on some of my criticisms but your looking for feedback. 1. When its hot the tents can be to hot inside. 2. The music from the concerts can be distracting at the workshops 3. Some presenters will spend to much time on why something should be done. (preaching to the converted) and not enough on practical and useful information. 4. I really like the workshops and have a tough time deciding which ones to attend because they overlap.
77	It would help to have some vendors who are credit unions or local banks that could offer some information on loans for energy upgrades and rebates.
78	Attract more solar businesses to exhibit.
79	workshops could be shorter in length, offered more than once/weekend; screen the presenters (vegan workshop)
80	Make available the workshop videos/presentations after the fact (CD/DVD?) for people who could not attend all they wanted due to scheduling conflicts.
81	More/varied exhibitors. Better keynote speaker.
82	great weather this year, too bad there weren't more people there to enjoy it
83	The workshops and music.
84	The music Saturday evening went from nice and mellow to hard and way too loud. That was a hard trasion, maybe more gradual transitions with music? My friend and I both wished for better variety in the food...or maybe it was just that what we wanted wasn't there, though unfortunately I can't say exactly what it was.
85	solarfest has solar in the title yet there was little available for people who might want to buy some for their house. The few vendors there who did installations were generally not at their booths. The many solar installations had little cost or power info available to read.
86	Regional publicity. So many people we know have not heard of SolarFest and were unaware of it. There was a clear lack of solar equipment vendors this year!
87	Encouraging/enticing more sophisticated vendors. I had hoped to see more inverter vendors; battery vendors should be there; residential wind turbines; and more solar gadgets and toys
88	More advertising around with more positive outlooks on Solarfest
89	There's usually acoustic music playing, so I would mix it up. Also, more dancing opportunities. Additionally, more umbrellas and escapes from the sun. Finally, some of the presentations I'd seen before
90	We need to figure out how to get the word out to everyone else in New England and NY as to the value afforded by attending this awesome/essential event. The combination of great people, great workshops and great (usually) entertainment is unique and we need to spread the word. Maybe it's time to add a new twist...?
91	Music selection should vary more. Everything is either folks, or bluegrass, which are good but, I really dug it a couple years ago when there were bands like Break of Reality and that sorta Celtic bagpipe band... had a more primal feel to it and amazing energy that year. Also, more shaded tents above the field by the stage might be nice since it does get awful hot during those great solar days.
92	Increase health and nutrition workshop
93	vendors/exhibitors/music consistency lackluster keynote this year
94	A little more diversity in the music would be nice.
95	Poster outreach in Mass, and CT. Ask participants from these regions if they will put up posters/fliers on community bulletin biards in their town, county, region.
96	vol food variety

97	See number 16. Also the family stage was quite crowded at times (under the tent).
98	More vendors with more demonstrations and exhibits of their wares. What happened to wind?
99	Spread the word. Could a deal be worked out with Greyhound/Peter Pan or some other bus company to provide free (or reduced) service to Solarfest from major cities in order to promote Solarfest to a larger region?
100	Could you draw attendees from New England colleges, perhaps? Send emails/publicity in April to schools with environmental programs? Perhaps draw in speakers with ties to Yale(their sustainable farm program is big) I felt a lot of the draw was local....many day patrons who only drove 1 or 2 hours. Tie in with a green fest being held in the Boston area in August? I noticed less signs leading us to Solarfest in the past few years....get some bigger acts to commit to the cause, like Dar Williams again. Again...local is good, but you might be preaching to the choir....Vermonters are pretty green to begin with...is there a way to reach more people? I'm hesitant to suggest to hook up with a big power company/corporation(since we are trying to go off the grid in most cases) who wants(and hopefully is committed) to saving energy..or bring in Tom's of Maine, or some other "natural" products company...Can you get Stonyfield farms to become a sponsor?
101	As above.
102	reaching new attendees. I thought that this year attendance was really down from previous years. Maybe a little more online activity? Advertising in other festivals programs? Something like that.
103	Putting the Solar back into Solar Fest
104	take that gather and do more to promote discussion, collaboration and planning for a climate justice movement.
105	Our opinion with my wife is putting a portable bathroom in the walk-in camping area.
106	Need more shaded areas, outside of the exhibit tent, need more food vendors, more picnic tables near the food vendors, charge less for attendance, and add more exhibitors within the tent.
107	I think that more variety-maybe running the PV 101 but having a more advanced course for those doing it. Forums about solar would be helpful too. Also more hands on courses if possible.
108	I talked to a lot of people, and I mean a whole bunch, that didn't go because of the price. Don't know if that area is possible for fluctuation though... Might be some other factors there...
109	Signage for daily workshop changes or cancellations posted near the main entrance.
110	Signage for daily workshop changes or cancellations posted near the main entrance.
111	You need someone to take control of the stage, and have regular announcements. Changes in program, workshops, meetings, events, made people upset. There should be someone to make announcements throughout the day. If someone hears about a change then they can inform their friends as well, even if those friends didn't hear the announcement.
112	Could use a better sense of the choices, more direction to some of the more obscure workshop locations. And of course there's the problem of wanting to be in several places at once :-)
113	Well, I wonder how much advertising you do out of state. It seems that (if you aren't already) you should be making connections with like-minded organizations out of state to spread the word. I noticed attendance was down this year, and I was thinking that might be a way to boost attendance. Send posting to co-ops all over new england, renewable energy places, yoga centers, alternative schools, colleges, etc, etc, etc. I didn't notice as many local people this year and I heard that you did a lot of advertising, so maybe broadening your advertising scope would be helpful.
114	More variety in vendors might be nice. I realize that burritos and quesadillas are easy festival food, but almost every vendor offered that. With that said, the food is GREAT! Really, we just love Solarfest -- not much to complain about =) Oh, I would like for Theatre in The Woods to be performed either more or at different times. 10:00AM always gets tricky for us for some reason.
115	Variety of alternative energy vendors. Need to get more of them involved and active.
116	More effort to organize pre teens and tweeners using enthusiastic 20 somethings
117	Would like some more workshops with a historical perspective/focus.
118	Different types of workshops. Previous years have had a good variety of topics but I felt this year was focused on ag and homeowners and did not apply as much to the environmentally conscious consumer who rents. Felt like a lot of the workshops' topics were repeats from pervious years.
119	I have seen the festival become much more about the music in recent years, which is not necessarily a bad thing, however, I would like to see solarfest kind of "go back" to its roots a little bit and focus more on alternative energy and renewing our planet. I would encourage the board to consider lowering ticket prices, for although I volunteer many people who have supported and would like to continue to support Solarfest were turned off because of the pricing which is really unfortunate. I would like to see more local bands and performers which I believe would also give opportunity to lower prices.
120	We need more installers and manufacturers of the equipment. There seems to be a small but steadily growing number of people coming to find out what is the latest and greatest in the Solar technology.
121	perhaps networking sessions around particular topics with a host facilitator in addition to your workshops
122	More cowbell. No actually, limit how close to the stage tents can be.
123	music competition: have 2 categories. 1- solo & 2- duos or trios. this will fill up more free music time lowering your budget & providing plenty of music.
124	location of timber framing class got confusing....
125	Maybe a little more variety in the music genres
126	music. the people they attract are already on board. many workshops are preaching to the choir. with some bigger names the information will spread. don't be afraid to grow the festival. people need to know this stuff.
127	I was looking for energy efficient products and didn't see too much for sale. (LED bulbs, high efficiency appliances etc)
128	bring in a more diverse crowd
129	It would have been nice to have some vendors from Connecticut.
130	marketing in the boston area
131	Is it possible to look at the schedule having less conflict...like bands after 4pm, and kids performances on the main stage during the day? An example is the two mushroom workshops, bit really well attended, conflicted with eachother and were on opposite sides of the

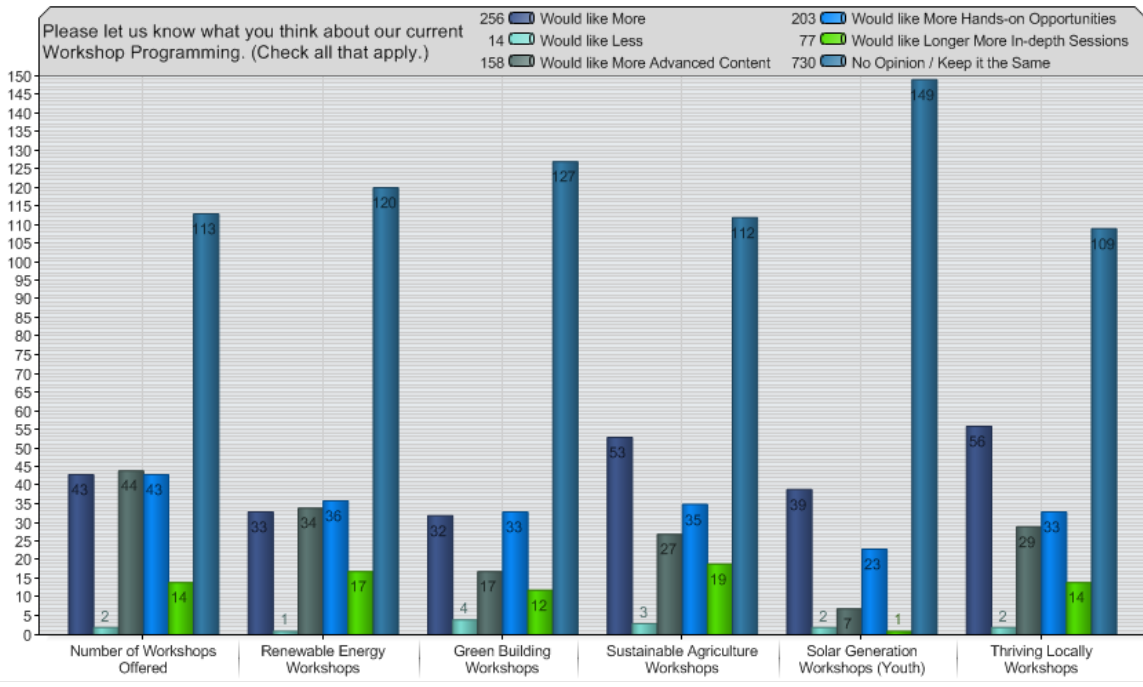
festival. I can't begin to imagine the scheduling nightmare y'all realize! There was so much going on, it was hard to choose. In kids tent, more art with recovered items. Love the wellness tent--would really love to see non chemical sunscreen and more natural electrolytes. (Alacer?)

- 132 Maybe make Zero Waste an ongoing workshop. Or-More vocal interaction at recycling stations. Less fake recyclables, like the corn plastic. (looks too much like regular trash)
- 133 Fix survey question #2. I have NOT attended before, but it forced me to choose an answer and "0" wasn't an option.
- 134 I think some of the "rougher" aspects of having an outdoor event with camping may preclude some people from enjoying or wishing to attend. I've had some friends call me a "hippie" because I attend this event which I don't find accurate but often wonder if the event seems too "crunchy" for the general status quo of people.
- 135 More vendors, Make the art wall bigger, Don't video the workshops.
- 136 Musicians song swap. This will attract more musicians. This will educate more musicians. Musicians will write more about solar. Audiences will hear more about solar. More people will do solar. We will save the planet.
- 137 Again, perhaps a few bigger names, or even the Middlebury College solar house "people" to talk. It seems that there is so much going on in the world that is more cutting edge than what was presented. Although what was presented was great, it depends on who you want your audience to be. Is your target people who are just learning? or people who are already doing a lot to live a "Solarfest" life?
- 138 areas of designation notification, and more solar lights on paths. too bad there isn't a solar converter for decorative "christmas" lights. Having them around for ambiance would have been fun...
- 139 Perhaps indicate in the workshop description whether the target audience is to be knowledgeable people in the field or a general audience. As a fairly inexperienced person in alternative energy "lingo," a few of the workshops were too specific and detailed for my complete understanding. A more basic approach to introduce the specifics would have been helpful to me so I wouldn't have felt a bit lost and out of my league.
- 140 More focus on food. More vegan options. Less food waste/packaging from vendors.
- 141 some additional shade structures possible for people listening to music?

19.

Please let us know what you think about our current Workshop Programming. (Check all that apply.)

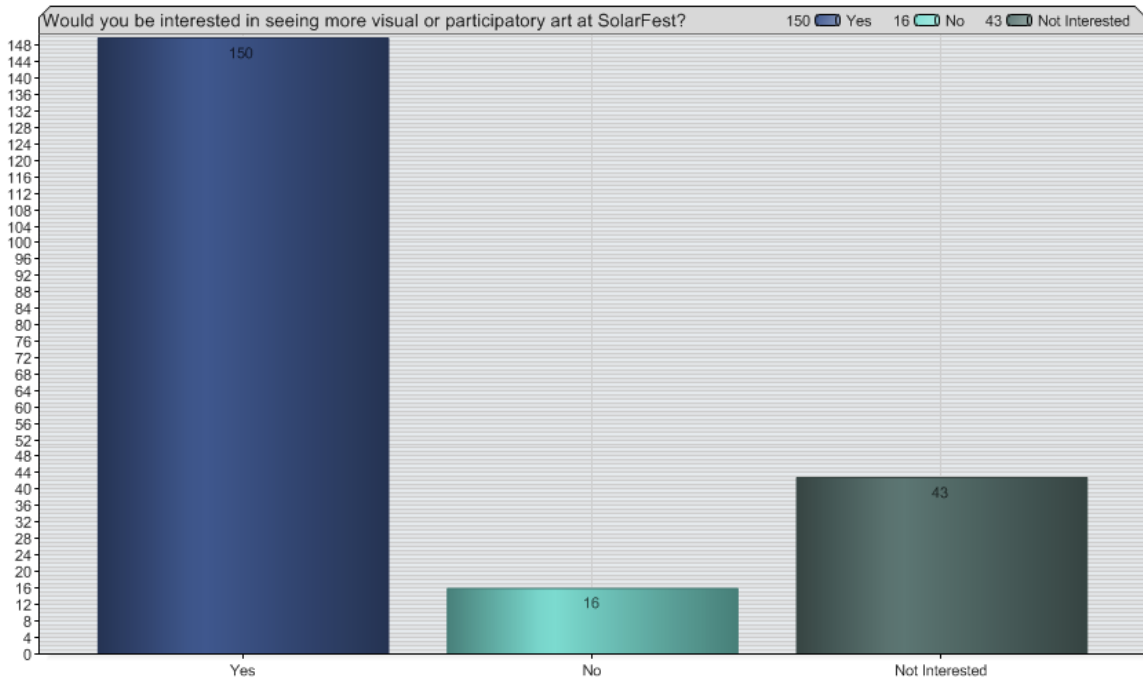
	Would like More	Would like Less	Would like More Advanced Content	Would like More Hands-on Opportunities	Would like Longer More In-depth Sessions	No Opinion / Keep it the Same	Total
Number of Workshops Offered:	43(16.6%)	2(0.77%)	44(16.99%)	43(16.6%)	14(5.41%)	113 (43.63%)	259
Renewable Energy Workshops:	33(13.69%)	1(0.41%)	34(14.11%)	36(14.94%)	17(7.05%)	120 (49.79%)	241
Green Building Workshops:	32(14.22%)	4(1.78%)	17(7.56%)	33(14.67%)	12(5.33%)	127 (56.44%)	225
Sustainable Agriculture Workshops:	53(21.29%)	3(1.2%)	27(10.84%)	35(14.06%)	19(7.63%)	112 (44.98%)	249
Solar Generation Workshops (Youth):	39(17.65%)	2(0.9%)	7(3.17%)	23(10.41%)	1(0.45%)	149 (67.42%)	221
Thriving Locally Workshops:	56(23.05%)	2(0.82%)	29(11.93%)	33(13.58%)	14(5.76%)	109 (44.86%)	243
Total Responded to this question:						208	99.52%
Total who skipped this question:						1	0.48%
Total:						209	100%



20.

Would you be interested in seeing more visual or participatory art at SolarFest?

	Responses	Percent
Yes:	150	71.77%
No:	16	7.66%
Not Interested:	43	20.57%
Total Responded to this question:	209	100%
Total who skipped this question:	0	0%
Total:	209	100%



21.

In regard to overall event programming, what do you think we should be doing more of?

(i.e.: Children's Programming, Music, Theater, etc.)

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	110	100%
Total Responded to this question:	110	52.63%
Total who skipped this question:	99	47.37%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

21.

In regard to overall event programming, what do you think we should be doing more of?

(i.e.: Children's Programming, Music, Theater, etc.)

Response	Response Text
1	More off season workshops & events
2	parade around the festival, with puppets and mardigras beads
3	Activities with a whole family.
4	You guys have a lot of extra space in your schedule (at least, that's how it looks from the event program) that could be used for more Theater and music!
5	childrens programming
6	More theatre performances Holistic Health
7	teen/youth more bands, fewer singer/songwriters
8	More theatre during the day/night
9	More programs that create more connections between us participants. More shaded areas for people to sit and eat and meet and discuss. We need a large tent with lots of tables, some plants maybe a water feature a place that is relaxing, inviting and comfortable. Mist could be lightly sprayed from the ceiling to keep it cool. Pubic chess and backgammon boards, also outdoor activities like ultimate frisbee and bocce. Team activities that inspire people to get to know each other. More infrastructure for people to come together to be able to make serious changes in the future. More room for discussion between the participants of the workshops as well. Maybe a discussion panel workshop mediated by a host and with notes taken by a stenographer that could be emailed to the participants. We're all here, lets get to know each other. We may need something besides the workshops to help us connect.
10	Music
11	I think it has a good balance, love being able to hear the music from everywhere. Very knowledgeable folks about solar, green living, and music, great blend. Irish/Celtic music!! Maybe some more relaxing adult entertainment..movie, book author reading and discussion, art...
12	See #18
13	dance and theater would be an amazing addition the former family stage would be a great place to encourage jam sessions
14	maybe offer some of the more popular workshops on both day or "parts one and two"
15	very good as is
16	Need more shade for music area. The heat prevented people from enjoying the music acts.
17	theater and hands on workshops
18	more dancing with costume.
19	More sustainable ag. programs. Unfortunately, I missed the goats (how about goats that produce fiber?), and chickens workshops. How about an introduction to solar and wind for the homeowner? I'd love the option of a more science and no "woo" weedwalk. Would love to see more workshops offered either before the sun gets hot, or after it starts to set. Would also love to see an "Introduction to Homesteading" workshop.
20	more new workshops Something fresh, cutting edge
21	I did not find anything lacking.....
22	no
23	Small group music events, not just on stage. Movies, main stream on eco / environmental topics, held after main programing over on Saturday. Choice of listening to music, partying, or going to sleep. We need more!
24	Small group music events, not just on stage. Movies, main stream on eco / environmental topics, held after main programing over on Saturday. Choice of listening to music, partying, or going to sleep. We need more!
25	Music should be the focus but you include a great amount of options
26	Music
27	participatory activities - dance, drumming, clowning and play children's activities - more varied
28	solar generation workshops
29	it is well balanced

30 Music

31 more demos/workshops that are "drop-in". For people to stop and watch, maybe participate, for a few minutes.

32 personal preference is for more folk/rock 1960's Woodstock style; less dance/blues.

33 Offering skill-based workshops or hands-on demonstrations in each of the categories would enhance the educational experience. Pairing with relevant vendors could give participants a wider view of how to tackle projects that reduce their carbon footprints, etc.

34 I'd like to see more workshops or exhibits geared toward the average local homeowner. For example, a booth discussed how to get off the grid in Massachusetts/Southern Vermont, but no real options for Rutland County. A great workshop a couple of years ago discussed options for green counter-tops, etc., but most of these options are priced well beyond the affordability of the average homeowner. I'd love to see workshops geared toward affordable, options for young families. Maybe something simple like a treasure hunt for trash for young children. How can young families, or other homeowners with limited resources, impact the environment in an obtainable, positive way?

35 More hands-on or participatory activities. Adding the contradance was a great idea- any events or activities that will promote people socializing, meeting each other, and sharing ideas. Games, building things, anything that would give people a feeling of satisfaction that they learned, had social needs met, created something, and otherwise contributed. More hands-on workshops at the event! More advanced content! Maybe partner with Yestermorrow to do longer workshops that could provide AIA credits, work toward NABCEP, or provide other accredited learning opportunities. Then you have great VT mountain getaway plus accredited learning. That would be a win win! More activities like yoga, tai chi, learn how to hoop, learn acrobatics. Maybe invite a circus troupe to do a show and offer learning opportunities for kids and adults. Significantly expand the social area in the Arena- maybe a SolarFest cafe run by volunteers. Serve coffee, tea, and little snacks all day to benefit SolarFest.

36 More high energy music, less all sad sack folksinging. :-) Pay me no mind, other people probably feel the opposite way.

37 More variation in music styles.

38 Maybe a little bit more organic gardening types of stuff or organic animal raising like chickens.

39 My child is 10, she was actively shying away from crafts that involved lots of littles. She likes nature walks, plant medicine, music, and loves the hula hoops.

40 I think more mid-day entertainment. Saturday, there did not seem to be enough of a draw to bring people to the festival during the day.

41 i think you should have one big name musical headliner per night that would attract the early 20's crowd. Less folk music and more rock n roll. Reggae band! Also, more food choices would be good. Besides the pizza which was way too expensive, there was no standard "normal" food. You need vegan food, but does every vender need to be vegan? Also the ice cream vender ran out of ice cream on saturday. Lame-o!

42 I come to SolarFest for rather specific networking and knowledge seeking. I do not come for arts and music. However to the extent that arts and music can draw a wider audience to the event without detracting from the core issues of education, I happily support it.

43 I think it is a wonderful mix. Sunday morning seems to be slow, both years I have attended I have left early sunday because I didn't want to wait a few more hours for things to get going again.

44 As a mother of two, more children's programming is always welcome! I love that my daughters are growing up with SolarFest and love how welcome they are at SolarFest.

45 Keynote this year was not as engaging as previous years; more folk music; why were there fewer porta-potties this year?

46 More food vendors

47 Not much, it was a very well organized event. I enjoyed working and playing at the event. I will attend again.

48 A little art gallery area in the big tent thingy would be cool - I'm really not interested in buying books @ a festival - that always struck me as odd....

49 all is fine- keep at it!

50 Teen centered activity

51 It seemed that there was less children's programming this year, and that was missed. We brought families who have 3-year olds and there wasn't as much for them as I had advertised.

52 MUSIC

53 more art! It was a bummer when to the american clay workshop was cancelled. Also african dance was offered during the hottest part of the day.

54 Music

55 Add theatre Bring back the the trashion show fashion event..Loved Marshall with his flippers and toilet seat ! Better quality bands after 6pm to midnite, separate tickets for music.

56 Thriving locally, maybe more networking between activists/organizations or complementary groups, focus for participants on taking action with what they have learned.

57 massive all-ages field games or capture the flag! out by RV camping would be awesome, like we used to play in gym class or at summer camp. Two huge opposing crowds rushing each other in a melee of tag and run or something.

58 I was only there for Sunday (7/17/11) so I can only comment on what I experienced; the music I heard was excellent.

59 It appeared that the art wall went over very big. I was speaking with one of the gals doing it and she had no replacement and had to leave. We managed to find a couple of other volunteers who were happy to check on it until the end of the evening and clean up. Art is wonderful for the children and even the youth. I love it as an adult so why not get into that more? I also believe that theater is something to go with. I say ; ask the kids!!!

60 I love the music venue.but i am only one person.when i go to the festival i am alone,other's with their families would have different wants.

61 These programs are for the younger people which I think is great but I don't have much interest

62 love the music

63 Can't think of anything off-hand.

64 less repeat of workshops from years past. better music to dance to and less Dwayne Carlton time.... please.

65 I think there was too much going on at once. For example, we wanted to go to a workshop while the Litter Bugs project by Jen was going on as well as Shakespeare play by Saskia. We couldn't be three places at once.

66 solar cost info

67 Maybe some special evening workshops on Friday & Saturday for people who work during the day and can't come. (ex: farmers) Make the workshop presentations available online or on CDs.

68 more music like 2010

69 Yoga is good... how about a cooking demonstration (or grilling) with local foods by one of the food vendors?

70 Maybe a chance for customers to do improve and act somewhere

71 Dancing, theater. Workshops should also focus more on what suburban and city people can do rather than just rural folk with rural technologies. I have an apartment-- I can't get a compost toilet (or can I? No workshop ever talked about the needs of city people, other than completely redesigning cities during the workshop on sustainable urbanism)

72 Theater would be cool... perhaps some adult theater? Also more Yoga... not just really early in the AM.

73 Music, exhibitors

74 A good feature documentary film projected outside at night (weather ermittring) or inside the arena at night if inclement weatherr outside. I have a 14 foot wide screen that I can bring and set up, and a DVD projector and speaker/amp.

75 shade for performers and kids

76 theater on the main stage. I remember seeing a puppet show on the main stage in 2007. It was great. Since we have children, but love the music on the main stage, it would be nice to combine the family/ and main stage events sometimes.

77 Theater in the Woods is great. Perhaps a matinee show on Saturday would allow for more viewership (especially for volunteers to see it). I think a stronger Saturday late night band - the headliner - (Ozomatli?) would draw in more people.

78 Again...if it includes movies, town hall discussions, maybe Skype with others in the green movement or legislators, whoever might promote positive change.

79 music

80 Roomful of Blues should NOT have been the closing event....

81 Keep changing up the music! Every year is a new musical adventure.

82 Behind the scenes work to get more Renewable exhibitors there.

83 political workshops

84 Renewable Energy Workshop & more Vendors.

85 More continuous music.

86 theater

87 More jam/psychedelic music, more spontaneous art, late night activities and music.

88 an orchestrated jam for everyone that showed up with an instrument could be cool.

89 Teenage and preteen needs to be more engaged

90 Demonstrations!! More variety in workshop themes.

91 I think giving local people, and other guests a chance to share their ideas and what they do as far as renewable energy or sustainable living, like the singer songwriter contest, you could let people show off their system, and have the best ones present to a larger audience.

92 Don't change.

93 dance

94 i don't know how you'd pull in more teens without sex, drugs, rock-n-roll, & rebelliousness.... but if you can figure it out, let me know.

95 You got it nailed!

96 the theator in the woods could be at different times on the weekend maybe.

97 world music, get some bigger names, Habibe Koite, Youssou N'Dour, Angelique Kidjoue etc. also the pre-teen stuff, now my kid is 11 and he was bored to tears this year, usually he loves it. a friday night bonfire would be nice

98 The music this year was mostly within or near the same genra. It would have been much nicer if it was more diverse, like previous years.

99 Would like to see more renewable energy other than solar represented (wind, hydro) and more RE vendors

100 I think Solarfest needs to decide what the emphasis is; either music or workshops. I felt somewhat overwhelmed by conflicting interests, particularly music or workshop. It made me somewhat frenzied instead of relaxed/

101 Opportunities for festival-goers to interact with each other and participate in the action. I don't know how you'd do this, but something like the bonfire is when people get most excited and start to put on their own show.

102 ART

103 How about an Herbal Medicine track? salves insect repellant first aid How about an electric or solar or high-mileage car display and drive in? Prize for highest m.p.g.

104 I love live theatre, but not sure how you'd incorporate it into the theme?

105 I personally think you do an amazing amount of content over the weekend.... for me it is almost too much as I like to attend workshops and also listen to music but sometimes have to forgo one for the other.

106 The "family" stage doesn't have to be exclusively "family." It can be a family/workshop/acoustic stage. Workshop meaning songwriters in the round or something. The family stage is poorly attended NOT b/c there is no interest but b/c the menu isn't exactly right. At many

	festivals people prefer (and buy tickets b/c of) the "acoustic" stage. You could have "Circle of Song" or "song swaps" (not jams - save that for somewhere else). I have run these things at other festivals and would be happy to help. Spook@spookhandy.com
107	More for the 8-16 crowd. Hands on competitions/solar robotics...
108	Balance is good. Maybe random performances about in public areas, just for fun... (magician, jester, etc..) Afternoon yoga??? or later morning yoga???
109	The bicycle work shop was great but too too short. I don't think our 'keynote' speaker(s) should necessarily be CEO's of any industry. Corp. power and influence is dwarfing the greater needs of society and although his message might have been 'right on', surely we can attract speakers with vision etc. without corp. connections. I must admit that I unfortunately missed his short talk, maybe my opinion would be skewed a little differently. Let the corps. sponser etc., but speaking at events seems like a 'commercial ' and a bit too conflicty???
110	It's not that I'm not interested, it's that I cannot comment for this year.
111	More focus on sustainable food

22.

In regard to overall event programming, what could we do less of or not at all?

(i.e.: Children's Programming, Music, Theater, etc.)

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	45	100%
Total Responded to this question:	45	21.53%
Total who skipped this question:	164	78.47%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

22.

In regard to overall event programming, what could we do less of or not at all?

(i.e.: Children's Programming, Music, Theater, etc.)

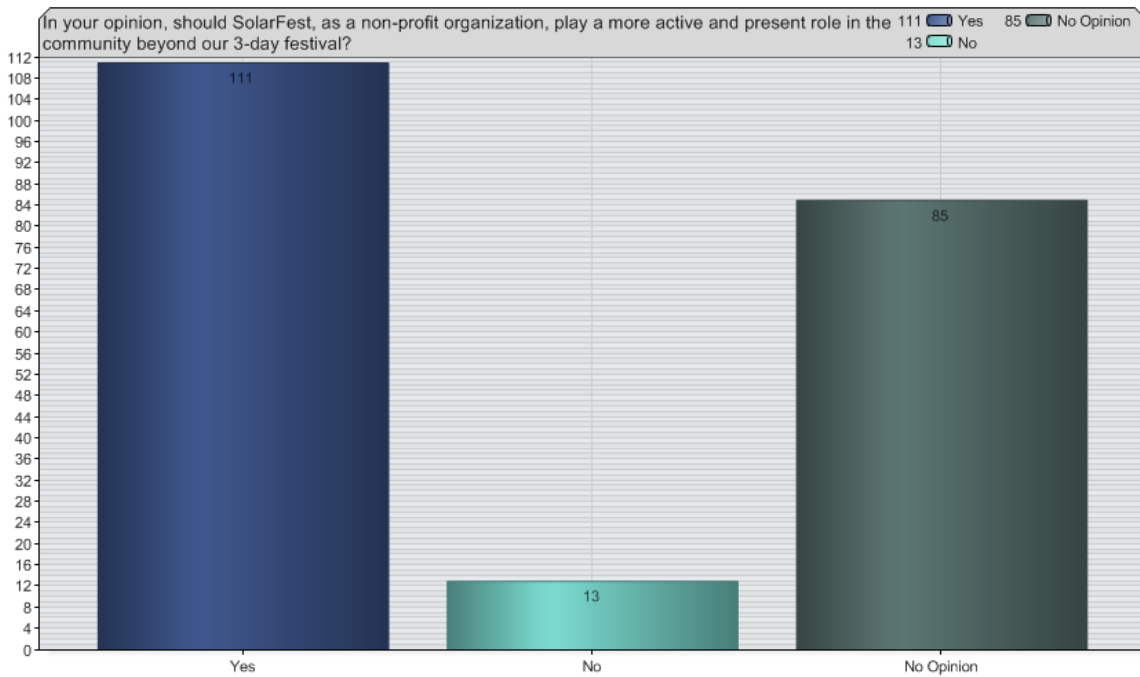
Response	Response Text
1	water slide
2	Nothing, everthing's good!
3	singer songwriters
4	less amplification less energy usage even if it is solar generated. Solarfest could take pride in only needing a small number of solar panels to supply the small amount of energy that it uses. Solarfest could be an example of how we can live with less. Plus it is hard to have a conversation with the person next to you when the music is so loud. If there is any way to move the sound booth further back and make it lower that would be nice too. It is very obstructive right in the middle of the field.
5	Different strokes for different folks, I haven't attended all categories of workshops, so it's hard to know what areas were under attend.
6	I think it's a good mix
7	music
8	no
9	Thriving locally. Not only Vermont-centric, very borely presented. Also cut back on green building (only the affluent can afford truely green home (LEEDS).
10	Thriving locally. Not only Vermont-centric, very borely presented. Also cut back on green building (only the affluent can afford truely green home (LEEDS).
11	ther was almost too much kid's entertainment this year.
12	The festival does a pretty good job meeting diverse needs.
13	It's already perfect, IMO!
14	I would recommend billing the music second to workshops and learning activities. There are so many competing music festivals in July that it seems to me to make more sense to really push the solar part of SolarFest and drive the festival's growth based on expanding and increasing the quality and quantity of workshops. Then, maybe have a reduced but stellar music program after workshops close with a few acts each evening.
15	I can't be hating on the stuff I didn't attend. :-)
16	keep it the way it is.... something for everyone.
17	no opinion
18	Your mix is good!
19	Same, really nice mix.
20	Nothing.
21	I hate to say it but the peace pole ceremony is a little depressing....I've never participated but it always seems a little sad...I know that is a totally weird concept - peace being sad but I think more people would get involved if there wasn't the creepy drum in the background like ya'll were about to sacrifice a virgin for world peace.....jus' sayin' -- maybe a peace dance? encourage everyone to come down and just move and shake? I don't know.....but as long as I come to SF I will not be peace-polling.....
22	solar generation
23	Evaluate and add more diversity to the mix
24	It seems the amount of acoustic guitars featured on the mainstage throughout the day (and night) is directly proportional to amount of 20-somethings attending the festival and people dancing in the stage area. But hey, I LOVE folk and bluegrass music, and I play an acoustic guitar (and banjo for that matter) but it gets oooooold after the third swing past the mainstage to see another folk trio or jazz duet. Solarfest felt a bit more listless to me this year due in part to the music lineup. Bands like the Stereophonics and the Blackhearts seem more deserving of the cool-night dancing weather than antiquated blues line-ups and classics covers. I'm not trying to be cruel, I'm just voicing for a shuffle of the deck and a respect to genres and their more appropriate playing times,.
25	I saw many of the youth playing frisbee. I had to duck as I was almost hit in the skull by one..lol..those plastic things can be brutal! They sell very nice cloth ones that are excellent. We buy them for our labs by the dozen (not expensive). How about a no plastic frisbee rule and sell the cloth ones? You can also have frisbee tossing contest, maybe? Just a thought? As for the rest of it..you are on your own!
26	i am not qualified to say.

27	I have no opinion.
28	Can't think of anything off-hand.
29	Less music.
30	See above.
31	music (to lower the price)
32	perfect
33	Everything was wonderful. More is better! :)
34	It's hard to say...your strength in diversity(workshops, music) may also be a weakness....I see less crossover in workshop people going to music and vice versa. Maybe offer more contra dancing, if you had a tent or the space. People are crazy over contra.
35	Don't have much interest in childrens programming
36	If anything children's programming
37	less theatre
38	Children's Programming.
39	don't drop anything
40	nothing. doing less seems silly at this point.
41	Fewer repeats.
42	Again, don't change.
43	don't give any of it up... just do the music less expensively... see my competition comment in earlier comment box.
44	I think music concentrated solely in the late afternoon/evening would be just fine but I'm sure some would complain if music wasn't available most of the day.
45	see above.
46	Nothing. The great thing about Solarfest is that there are so many things happening. If I'm not interested in one thing, I can find something else to do instead.

23.

In your opinion, should SolarFest, as a non-profit organization, play a more active and present role in the community beyond our 3-day festival?

	Responses	Percent
Yes:	111	53.11%
No:	13	6.22%
No Opinion:	85	40.67%
If yes, please share your thoughts on how we could make an impact throughout the year.:	86	41.15%
Total Responded to this question:	209	100%
Total who skipped this question:	0	0%
Total:	209	100%



23.

In your opinion, should SolarFest, as a non-profit organization, play a more active and present role in the community beyond our 3-day festival?

Response	Comments
1	See above
2	maybe a month of pre festival volunteer building projects, for in depth hands on, like b maybe a month long pre festival volunteer building project for more hands on infrastructure experience...a giant solar powered cooker for demonstration and profit
3	I'd like to see you guys at renewable energy events all around VT!
4	Be more visible with the local movements for food, renewable energy. Play a part in downtown revitalization
5	Yes definitely - the contacts that are made at Solarfest could be better maintained and deepened by opportunities for further involvement. Workshops offered at various community centers throughout the year and also hosting community forums could be established.
6	Keep doing what you're doing.
7	Other educational events, workshops (schools, etc)
8	I am a volunteer for a non-profit Bone Marrow registration local, regional and nation organization. We were told we had to have a renewable energy theme to be part of the festival. I think expanding and having organizations like us doing drives would be a great world community thing to do.
9	Okay, so...if the reason we don't use solar now is not technology or cost, but lack of will to make it happen....and sales and marketing is the number one biggest challenge (according to key note speaker) then the message has to be delivered consistently, credibly, with a high level of saturation. How can SolarFest contribute to that? Workshops at other fairs and events, year round offerings in other locations, partner with some of the Rutland public projects here and collaborate in their community outreach, get the universities and colleges more involved. People were very interested in the UVM banner, with a wide range of questions.
10	As something bringing together people with experience & enthusiasm, do you have any resources for people/institutions who start thinking about going solar sometime other than over the festival weekend? I know there's a "links" page, but maybe the organization could help groups raise funds for solar projects, etc? Raising funds for the festival itself is probably enough of a challenge...

11 Maybe as a point of dissemination of resources.... and not if it would be detrimental to event planning and preparation.

12 Businesses and non profits can promote the festival by putting online that they are a sponsor of the festival.

13 if there is a way attendees (like myself) could promote the event beyond just talking about it and encouraging attendance, i'd be happy to do it...

14 no definite suggestions...

15 My response was 'no', but I'll use this space to share my reasoning. SolarFest should focus on its niche and doing what it does well. There's a great foundation--beautiful event organization, volunteer base--but what I saw this year was a weakness in ability to evolve along with the festival audience. I think there are plenty of non-profits with a solid information, research and advocacy base. SolarFest should continue to position itself as a yearly catalyst for activism, inspiration and information. But if the festival doesn't evolve, continue to engage new audiences or maintain its ability to deliver quality, that important catalyzing function will be lost. Those of us who return every year will no longer do so & new folks won't attend.

16 Events through schools and libraries

17 apply the seminar to our family, friends and the communities.

18 You know, I have no specific thoughts on how you could make positive impacts throughout the year. I have to say yes simply because the ? sounds like a 'duh' thought. Of course you should always try and play a more active and present role in the community outside of just the weekend festival. I am not sure what that would be, but at least you have the weekend festival, and we hope that that energy created during that weekend creates a ripple effect within the lives of the people that attended, and they can make an impact in their own communities, in their own way throughout the year.

19 Use it as a springboard for focused interest groups to take action. Perhaps offer to have groups have a semiannual meeting here. SolarFest could chose a definite goal for its self and act on it outside the festival but it would have to be specific yet not constrain the festival... tricky

20 Working with other festivals and organizations on zero waste., or as a resource.

21 participate in area "green" events and learning centric forums (colleges/local schools, library Greening Your Home series)

22 Maybe Solarfest could have a summer program leading up to the solarfest weekend. Solarfest camp?

23 teaching other festivals how to reuse and recycle better

24 Interesting thought

25 Interesting thought

26 Is there an office/classroom with workshops available throughout the year?

27 I know that requires energy. Wouldn't want it to take away from event

28 community workshops - could be fee based community connection and play retreats - partner with founders of Circus Yoga, partner with local 4H groups

29 Public Education

30 as above (#18)

31 Not so much that Solarfest SHOULD play a more active role, but certainly would be a positive addition to the community.

32 Yes- partner with accredited learning institutions to provide educational opportunities year-round. But in what territory, I am not sure. I have always been confused about whether SolarFest was a VT-focused event or if it is really trying to serve New England. Much of the SolarFest energy is centered in Rutland County.

33 Just do whatever you can afford to to raise awareness. I mean, the sun shines in VT at least a dozen times a year :-)

34 Please keep focus on what you do well!!

35 I am not sure of the year round participation currently, so wouldn't know how to improve it.

36 Yes, it would be completely fantastic if Solarfest could play a more active role, year-round, promoting sustainability (and fantastic music, art, and people). However, only if it would not compromise Solarfest as a whole. I could see those involved with planning Solarfest becoming completely exhausted at the very THOUGHT of having to extend their reach past the 3-day festival, whether it be to inform the community through small events or otherwise. Relaxed volunteers are the best kind, so if extending Solarfest's reach would overwork the staff then it shouldn't be done, but if it could be pulled off it would be wonderful!

37 It is tough to represent more than the the Board's opinion in public affairs, however there are many groups within VT that share similar missions and should share knowledge and plans so that duplications and omissions do not occur.

38 Solar golf carts for local golf clubs.

39 You have some clout now so why not use it. You are an example of how and why solar works. Other can learn from your example.

40 Wouldn't mind seeing a SF booth at the Burlington Farmers Market (others as well)...maybe just advertise the show and pass out some info - maybe like a practical approach to how the average Joe can promote/use/endorse alt. energy???

41 maybe you could collect data on how/if vendors actually sell products/services as a result of Solar Fest? (maybe you already do?) I also think you could "hook" more young people by offering Science Project type activities that they could use in school. At our school they set up small windmills and the teams "raced" to get the most energy from them-fun and learning about wind. More solar S'mores! Kids could set them up early, and come back when they are done-yum!

42 thr could be a winter solar fest, that would be most awesome solar heat= happy camper

43 solar fest has developed a credible " brand" throughout the state and New England, learn how to use that to your advantage. develop stronger connections with REV Hold events workshops throughout the year for local folks off site

44 sponsor workshops, present at schools, presence in Montpelier to educate lawmakers/policy, workshops at farmer's markets, programs at libraries, blog on fb, column in newspaper with facts like those in the portapotties and easy things people can do and features about local sustainable businesses

45 More workshops throughout the year.

46 Maybe some kind of event (smaller) in the dead of winter ? It's easy to forget about our energy situation in summer when there's plentiful sunlight (and it's hot!). Given our climate, it would be helpful to know what sorts of alternative energy practices are available through the winter as well...

47 My husband was not able to attend due to a family crisis but was quite interested in many of the workshops as was I. Flower brook runs the length of our property and we are on a mt.. We would like to know how we could utilize our brook for power to our home? With only 5 acres a windmill is out but I am sure there is much we could do to live off this land. We are interested in knowing more but need help. Giving seminars throughout the year would help.

48 maybe talk with Sustainable Rutland and plan an event together or something

49 if you have the emotional and physical resources.

50 that is a lot of work for you!

51 well actually, maybe...

52 Become a part of Rutland's Creative Economy. Alot of people still don't know what SolarFest is. Also, what happened to the road signs directing people to SolarFest?

53 Get more local NGOs involved during SolarFest as exhibitors and collaborate with their programs.

54 have all year round work shops, and also include other renewable energy sources

55 Provide solar roller or other tools/expertise to towns who want a local solarfest (or energy expo)

56 Have year round random Silarfest activities like dances or little concert

57 Wow. Tough question, but this is probably a way to create more buzz for the event itself. Maybe establish a local community that integrates many of the sustainable ideas that are put forth during SF (easier said than done, I know!). Also, maybe a traveling road-show workshop type of thing...?

58 Have a monthly film series September - November (Dec. is not good, people are busy with their families) Not January, too cold and bleak. Maybe resume February or March or April. Resume April - June. S it cold be six screenings diuring the year. They could be held in a community or Grange hall, Town hall meeting room, library, club or even a restaurant willing to let you (and they could sell food) Preferably a venue that you would not have to pay \$ to use, or at least just minimal amount like \$15 -\$30.

59 fnl, join sustainable rutland, co-op, farmers market

60 I'd hope your website may be a help to those looking for networking and provide more information. At least the facts listed in the porta-johns could be included in the website...maybe list schools that have "green" education programs and contact information for your speakers and vendors.

61 You seem to be participating in other local events and getting the name out. I think that is good.

62 YES! because the impact of the SOLAR FEST, like us is we could use that knowledge to ourselves and also to our friends and to the community as well.

63 email/newsletter or a blog

64 Roll around with a solar music bus! That would make quite a scene.

65 perhaps workshops/demonstrations for kids at schools? continued Facebook, twitter presence.

66 Hold your workshops and outreach beyond your region and offered to communities with specific branding - the "Solarfest" brand.

67 I had never heard of it before my boyfriend told me about it. I think if there were more events - smaller of course - and maybe get the word out further (mailings?) you would have more attendees and people would be more apt to continue what they have learned throughout the year.

68 Local booths at festivals. Lecture series. Demonstrations.

69 anyway to spread our message should be embraced, I have thought about starting volunteer gardens placing them anywhere a veggie garden could fit, I would love to spearhead a volunteer garden branch of the solarfest organization. just putting gardens up and having a sign that had solarfest's name on it donating some of the "fruits" to local soup kitchens (not to mention the places who let us garden on their land) and selling some of it to the Rutland coop!

70 I think we should try to find a way to interface with schools, civic groups and other organizations via information presentations such as the one we did at the Northshire and the Rutland Library. With more outreach locally, we should attract more local folks to come to the festival. I have been contacted by several schools and colleges to give talk to various classes and this trend seems to be increasing. Maybe we could have several engagements with each group such as one talk on the technology, anther on solarfest and the workshops etc.

71 perhaps influencing policy as it pertains to energy in our state and other sustainable things... A policy committee could come out of a networking session

72 i don't have any ideas, but anything that can get the message out about alternates to oil needs to be said loud and said often!

73 Is the solar roller still around? haven't heard much recently.

74 I can't say for sure but SF is such a mainstay that I feel a yearlong presence could be beneficial to SF and the community...

75 why not? Solarfest is great :)

76 How about a basic overview of Renewable Energy that could be presented at various locations over the winter?

77 plant gardens locally at nursing homes, schools, etc or have courses and support for people getting solar power.

78 Maybe it would be possible for some of the members of the organization to attend county fairs to attract more people to the possibility of living more responsibly. Maybe members can also be available to speak at schools, churches, etc.

79 but what "community"?

80 Make an alliance with Sustainable Rutland, and the new GMP presence in "Rutland, the Solar City" And/Or with NESEA New England Sustainable Energy Association - more than 20 years old!

81 In the approaching world energy crisis it is important to offer as many opportunities to change the status quo as possible. Many people will be questioning what they can do and SolarFest can offer some answers.

82 Maybe Halloween parade, or public events

83 I live in NJ, but this is allows a great idea. Builds a real core of dedicated supporters. But I think you already have this.

84 Solarfest if the concentrated presentation of a cumulative year of celebrating the sun. There should be a (smaller?) winter event on

Killington. Even just as an advertisement for the summer festival. (One afternoon/evening concert mountain-side is going to give you HUGE exposure and seriously, planting the seed: a solar powered chairlift?????)

85 ??? Develop an in-depth workshops/training weekend seminar(s) exploring some aspect of the alt. energy systems, maybe even at other site/location(s), especially in conjunction with permanent installs??? A fee based workshop, should include free camping /rest facilities. Bring your own food and or potluck or fee based food. Whatever??!!

86 Perhaps you could really influence energy policy in Vermont.

87 Workshops! The festival makes a huge impact educationally, but it still takes an environmental toll, no matter how much is done to lessen that. Smaller workshops throughout the year might get the word out to the community without the costs and messes associated with festivals. Anyway, people need this information all year, not just for three days.

24. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

	Responses	Percent
Responses:	82	100%
Total Responded to this question:	82	39.23%
Total who skipped this question:	127	60.77%
Total:	209	100%

Graph/Chart function not relevant for this question type.

24. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Response	Response Text
1	keep itr up
2	No.
3	Hand-tool small farming would be a nice workshop subject, also hand-tool furniture making. I attended the mushroom growing and vegan food workshops this year - both excellent and the right direction for Solarfest, growing one's own food and eating responsibly.
4	More good bands, fewer repetitive singer songwriters
5	Your staff is amazing :)
6	Please contact me if I could be of any assistance in implenting any of the ideas I've mentioned. I would love to design a large tent area for people to come together.
7	As a vendor, we were disappointed with the sales. Traffic seemed pretty good, but not too many buyers. Maybe consider reducing vendor fees. We are unsure if we will return, but would consider it more if fees were less.
8	Really had a nice time.
9	Is this the best place to recommend a band?? Spirit Family Reunion are a great old-timey band from Brooklyn who would be a PERFECT fit for Solarfest. They sound a bit like Woody Guthrie meets Johnny Cash, with a sort of modern sensibility. http://www.myspace.com/spiritfamilyreunionusa
10	I am grateful to be able to learn more about energy efficiency, renewables and sustainable practices in such a positive, pleasant atmosphere. Being in the company of so many like-minded people is very reinforcing for making efforts towards change.
11	love the way it feels like those who make this all happen seem to each have a special area to participate in what they love and are inspired by.
12	thank you!
13	Ticket prices have become prohibitive. SolarFest should review participants' perceptions of ticket value-for-money. Also, you may wish to engage a professional researcher/survey designer to help make this survey an even more valuable source of information. (e.g. "no opinion" is not the data equivalent of "keep it the same") We love Solarfest, and every year marvel at the incredible volunteer base that builds this unique and significant event. Criticisms about the festival this year are based on a disappointing experience--really, that started to dawn at last year's festival. The significant niche that Solarfest occupies means to me that it is even more important that the festival understand its audience (current and desired), focus on quality and evolution. Many thanks for all you do!
14	not applicable
15	I was interested in attending, won weekend passes and brought my not quite 3 yr old Friday not sure what to expect. I was pleasantly surprised by how family-oriented the festival was, my son requested to go again Saturday and I plan to camp for the weekend in 2012 with my son and any friends I can talk into going.
16	You know, I just don't have anything negative to say or any improvements to make. Maybe this is because for the past 10 years I lived in an area and state that was enviromentally and socially dead, and I felt like my soul was almost there too. I have been living in Vermont for a month before I attended Solarfest, and that weekend was the breath of fresh air that my soul needed to breath life in me once again. The only thing that bummed me out a bit was that there were too many things that I wanted to do or attend, and I simply couldn't do it all because there was something cooler that I did actually attend. I was busy from noon on Friday to the last band on Sunday and there were many workshops and presenters that I missed out on. All of which tells me one thing: See you next year! Thank you for a perfect weekend:)
17	I may consider this and write suggestions via email later.
18	Thank you for everything you do...Solar Fest continues to be a highlight of the summer for us!
19	We were very happy with all the workshops.
20	AGAIN, really enjoy coming to the event, will come again, but many presenters - tired/dated/not on cutting edge. Despite negatives, KEEP THIS EVENT GOING, we love coming.
21	AGAIN, really enjoy coming to the event, will come again, but many presenters - tired/dated/not on cutting edge. Despite negatives, KEEP THIS EVENT GOING, we love coming.
22	Thank you so much
23	It would be nice to see more solar technology represented, and more of it for sale at the event. Small, affordable items (even solar toys) would probably sell like hotcakes!
24	Question 2 should not have an asterisk if question 1 was answered "no". I selected "1", but in truth, have not attended any festivals prior to this year.
25	i love you all,my life and that of my familys has been made better by what i have learned here, this was my 10th year i hope for 10 more.
26	There's currently too long of a lag between main stage performances. I had planned on spending more time watching the stage after going through the venders but with long dead periods, I just got bored and went home instead. I know it takes time to switch out equipment but if the music is at all going to be a focus, it really needs to be far more present.

27 we miss Roger the Jester :-)

28 I believe your decline in numbers is just b/c you have done your job well and people are now educated and don't need to come see solarfest again year after year. I'm not sure what you could do better or differently- maybe be a 2 day festival again?

29 Keep going with the rootsy music theme. Jam-bands get monotonous.

30 A+++! One of the best festivals we've ever attended.

31 I want to see SolarFest grow and succeed but I think organizers need to consider what other events they are competing against and determine what the true value of SolarFest is and focus on that. Personally, I think it would be in hands-on opportunities and multi-day, or longer format workshops that can deliver an credit. This, of course, would change the over "value" of what the ticket would have to be. But, it would open up new interest in the event. Could sell longer format workshops at a different price, too. It would need to be different enough from, say, the NOFA conference, but I think a partnership even with the NOFA Conference would go a long way, or even the NESEA Building Energy Conference, Heatspring Learning Institute, VT Building for Social Responsibility, etc.

32 I met my boyfriend last year at solar fest, and we returned this year to celebrate our one year! We love solar fest

33 You are appreciated!

34 I like going, being with like-minded folks. Having more people of color and international guests is great. We are still a largely pale group, which means that some people aren't able to come or don't know about us.

35 Solarfest demonstrates what a sustainable future can look like, and helps fight the common notion that environmental problems are unstoppable. What's more, it reaches a fundamental truth about sustainability: The people who work hardest to provide a sustainable future are some of the friendliest people in the world. This should be unsurprising, because their conscientiousness for the material conditions of the planet translates into a basic affection for every form of life that surrounds them.

36 yes. We had a great time at our first solarfest. We will be back next year. We had one major issue: Our booth was in between the socialist party and health care reform booth. We had people arguing with eachother all weekend at both booths with us in the middle. I think you should put all political grouops together so all the bickering stays in one place. Next year, I will need to make sure that our space is not neighboring a political group or agenda.

37 You are doing a great job. I am so pleased to find a festival that offers so much for such a reasonable price.

38 Solarfest was an incredible experience I will do it again.

39 Yeah, the little info signs in the port-a-pottis are strange.... I read one about how automobiles kill people...Are we attacking the automotive industry? Those same cars that killed people are hybrids, electric, and veggie powered....cars aren't the problem (unless we're going total Edward Abbey on their asses, in that case let's go blow some cars up).....that sign seemed strange, although I do appreciate reading material on the john....maybe throw some 7Days or Calvin and Hobbes in there.... ;-)

40 Vendors who are MEN need to be told that in fact WOMEN actually make SOLAR ENERGY buying decisions and should be treated with RESPECT when they approach the tables/booths instead of DISRESPECTED and IGNORED because some MAN is also standing there. I came to SOLAR FEST because I am trying to buy/install solar for my new home and I am tired of being ignored! It is getting very frustrating. The only vendor person who helped me, and gave me information and treated me with respect was a WOMAN.

41 Bring back the Solar Bus!

42 We are amazed yearly by the amount of energy and commitment and devotion that go into making SolarFest the incredible event that it is. Thank you, thank you from the bottom of our sun-warmed hearts!

43 gluten free vendors

44 I believe that the Solar fest community including presenters and attendees will be willing to continue the events throughout the year if you ask them.

45 I am grateful to all the hardworking, dedicated people who work to put this together!

46 This year I noticed a lack of 20-somethings not seen in past years, though I know first hand that that age group is developing long-term interests in what Solarfest offers faster than any other. Ironically most of them currently reside in urban areas but desire strongly to re-connect with rural life. I feel the dip in attendance can be dramatically reversed if news of Solarfest can reach their communities and schools. I also feel that in order to attract them, more content may need to be added that can help up-and-comers in all walks of life reach toward sustainability no matter where they live. Maybe a primer/crash course on home-sustainability that briefly introduces the vast array of life-style changes, DIY ethic, and backyard/roof-top/hydroponic/window box projects that can introduce and inspire one to begin to create a more compatible existence with the earth. And of course the music may very well have to diversify too. So many different beats can carry the same message!

47 What about a lottery/scholarship for folks who might not be able to afford a weekend ticket, especially if a couple and/or family?

48 The Bluegrass Gospel Project is very pleased to have been invited to perform at SF this year and hope we will be asked back. Don't know if you caught it, but WCAX did a piece on SF on the evening of 7/17/11, and there we were - on stage in the background while a SF staff person was being interviewed. Several people told me they'd seen us on tv and said they had a favorable impression about the event because of it.

49 Just to say thank you for what you are doing in this beautiful state I was born in. I do hope everyone appreciates all your efforts. Everyone involved in this festival makes this world a better place to live. I have recycled for years and believe every small bit we put forth will be rewarded. Have a wonderful year and God Bless each one of you!

50 Drunk people ruin everyone else's enjoyment of SolarFest

51 hi, i am Paul the plumber from toms river n.j. sorry i couldn't make it. i was looking forward to volunteering this year before the start of the festival and attending friday and saturday. was hoping to help mat k, i hope everyone i met up there is doing well. had some unavoidable health issues to attend to and wasn't able to make it. hope to see you next year, best wishes Paul Heller

52 I would just like to say I really appreciate what your doing here and hope Solarfest continues to improve and is around for a long time to come. Its something I look forward to every year. I always take away good information and but it to use. I understand the problems the world is facing and want to live in away that allows future generations to thrive. I think having a keynote speaker like Bill Mckibben last year can be very inspiring. In regards to question #26 please don't give out my e-mail address Thanks

53 Have attended SolarFest for the past 7 years, usually as a vendor, but this was my first year as a volunteer. I think I'll do it again next year!!

54 Thank you for all you do.

55 SolarFest is somewhat an insular group of people. Somehow, we need to reach out to a more diverse group of people. I always see the same people, with the exception of tourists.

56 this survey took about 15 minutes to download on dialup

57 SolarFest is truly a highlight of the summer/year!

58 You should consider expanding the festival to other states! Or, creating one for city folk to enjoy. They need the kind of atmosphere created by SolarFest more than rural folk. All that homesteading is great, but the majority of people live in cities and can't leave, but would like to have access to the good, "clean" vibes of SolarFest

59 Thank You for all the work you do! Please don't put my name in the drawing, i will gladly pay to help support SF!!!

60 As always I appreciate the hard work of all of the staff and volunteers and Marshal and Melody are awesome!

61 I look forward to many more years of SolarFest!

62 Solarfest is the best little summer festival in the northeast. Other festivals are finding declining audiences or are having financial hard times (due to the economy , subsidies for inefficient and unsustainable vehicles by the federal gov't., devastation caused by rampant blind consumption, corporate greed and the permanent military-petroleum complex.)

63 I volunteered at Falcon ridge the next week and no real official numbers of attendees, but I heard the number of tickets sold was better than last year, but still down from past years.....Vendors weren't getting a lot of patronage either...the economy is still affecting us all. Surprisingly, I only saw about 4 FRFF volunteers that were also at Solarfest....the two fests have a similar demographic appeal. Difficulties in gaining attendance may be because Grey Fox and Green River fests fall on the same weekend as Solarfest.

64 Great festival, keep moving forward, push for change, adn try to bring more well-known speakers.

65 Hopefully if GOD willing we could see more next year.

66 We look forward to this festival from about January-it's part of our summer.

67 I feel SolarFest is an excellent education tool, but many of my friends do not attend because they think it is only about solar power systems and hippie music. I believe more advertising would be helpful for attendance.

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69 First year I never had to wait for a porta-john!

70 good survey, very thorough

71 i felt that the singer/songwriter competition was judged poorly. yes, i was rooting for a friend, but i don't think she was the winner. however, i also don't think that lady who decided to use her opportunity to sing about racism and use the stage as a soap box for her mediocre guitar playing and off-key singing. i'm a fairly decent judge of music and attitudes, and it was clear when the winners were announced that less than half of the crowd felt okay about the choices. hell, most people left while she sang. which, should tell the judges something, i'd hope they noticed. that's all. so, maybe a more diverse panel of judges? or a judging panel of randomly selected audience members?

72 you all do an amazing job setting it all up, and the owners of Forget-me-Not Farm are incredibly generous to let the public on their land

73 A great festival in all. Have attended for the last 4 years. GREAT location and a big THANKS to the Squier family for allowing the use of their lovely farm.

74 Once in the first grade I shut my finger in the car door that is why I have a deformed finger nail.

75 no

76 I actually filled this out at the festival but wanted to include my comment about the music so filled it out again. hope it doesn't cause a problem

77 I work for Taitem engineering in Ithaca, NY. I spoke with my boss about getting involved as a presenter for next year and he's into it. We have many great presentations that deal with green building and renewable energy. I'm a solar PV engineer at the moment.

78 I think you are competing with the Green River Festival in Greenfield which has the same demographic you have. I think having the fest the weekend before is a better idea.

79 Unfortunately, the one workshop I really wanted to attend was Roots and Shoots, but as we were coming only for the day from Connecticut, I was unable to get to the festival in time. Maybe it could be scheduled later in the day next year. :)

80 Great well run event, thank you!

81 Ask Bernie to come, maybe even for the Keynote. He could arrive in an electric car, driven right up to the main stage! Or at least for a photo-op during the pre-festival PV set-up workshop

82 THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU for the solar showers! What a life-saver for us campers! Something that works well at other festivals is having a smaller "side stage" so there aren't pauses in the performances. While one is performing, the other is setting up, so there's a non-stop flow.

83 I think the event has grown beautifully over the years.

84 thanks for letting me participate. Can't wait till next year...

25.

May we use your comments about SolarFest on our website or other marketing materials?

	Responses	Percent
Yes, feel free to use my comments and my name (if given below):	98	46.89%
Yes, feel free to use my comments, but do not use my name.:	92	44.02%
No, please do not use any of my comments.:	19	9.09%
Total Responded to this question:		209 100%
Total who skipped this question:		0 0%
Total:		209 100%

