



JUNE 13, 2021 | 1 PM - 5 PM
(timeframe approximate and subject to change)

Welcome to the 25th Annual Cool House Tour application process. The tour is a collaboration of Austin Energy Green Building (AEGB) and the Texas Solar Energy Society (TXSES) and is the primary fundraiser for TXSES. To be eligible for the tour, your residential or mixed-use residential project should achieve an AEGB rating or be an exemplary project demonstrating the value and beauty of sustainable, energy-efficient design and construction.

This year's virtual tour will comprise many types, sizes, and styles of projects to showcase the wide variety of home options available to Central Texans today. If submitting a multifamily or mixed-use residential project, one home interior will be photographed so please indicate if that is an occupied dwelling and provide occupant contact information. The three-person tour selection committee will work with project teams to schedule safe, masked, socially-distanced site visits from late January thru early February.

We will be creating a tour of panned still photography with voice overs and possibly include short video walkthroughs for each home. Projects must be photo ready by late February, excluding landscaping. Many years of shooting photos for the tour has taught us that photo ready means clean, neat and ready to be featured online, both on our website and in marketing materials. We want to feature you at your absolute best!

As part of the tour preparation process, project teams are responsible for creating a PowerPoint presentation to tell the project's story and highlight green features. Presentations will only include professional photography of the finished project provided by Austin Energy. That said, the presentation can also include process sketches, construction drawings and snapshots during design/construction phase. AEGB will provide an introductory and closing slide with project team logos that provide tour cohesiveness and comply with our continuing education requirements. AEGB will also review content in advance for this CEU criteria. The finished PowerPoint presentation is due on May 24th.

The team will share this presentation during a pre-scheduled 40-minute time slot the day of the tour, Sunday, June 13, 2021. Project teams should consist of at least two of the following: owner, owner's representative, architect/designer, builder, and/or solar or other sustainable system contractor. AustinEnergy staff will assist in technical set-up and directing questions to the project team on tour day. Texas Solar Energy Society staff will guide project teams through the project application, selection, and photography process. AEGB staff will advise on preparation for tour-day presentations.

Note new requirement this year: All AEGB rated projects selected for the tour must complete the case study form by March 15th.

Visit coolhousetour.com to view the 2021 Tour.

IMPORTANT DATES 2021

Jan 21 | All application requirements due:

(1) Application (2) Owner's Release (3) \$50 application fee (4) List of contractors

Jan 25 | Selection committee starts project visits

Feb 15 | All selected projects have been notified

Feb 22 | Selected projects pay Principal fee (see FEES Below)

Feb 23 | Project photography starts – shoots scheduled through Mar 19

Apr 26 | Cool House Tour website goes live and online sale of tickets begin

Mar 15 | AEGB Case Study Form completed

May 24 | PowerPoint Presentations due to AEGB

Jun 13 | Tour Day!

FEES DUE

Fees may be paid online at txses.org/cool-house-tour-fees or by check made out to Texas Solar Energy Society

TXSES

PO Box 1447

Austin, Texas 78767

\$50 | **Jan 21** | Applications fee due.

\$450 | **Feb 22** | Principal fee due if selected for the tour. *If two principals - \$300 each; if three principals - \$250 each.* Your project and company logo and website link will be prominently featured during the event, on the [Cool House Tour](#) and [TXSES](#) websites, social media and other collateral.

Thank you! We look forward to the 25th Annual Austin Cool House Tour. This is the primary fundraiser for the non- profit [Texas Solar Energy Society](#). TXSES works to promote clean, safe, locally harvested solar energy for every Texan. The Cool House Tour is our opportunity to remind citizens that their first step is to consider smart design, solid construction and the wise use of energy resources.

Questions?

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