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## The Melanoma Foundation of New England Announces Melanoma Awareness Month Plans

**New England** - The Melanoma Foundation of New England announced its event line up and initiatives for Melanoma Awareness Month today.

"May is melanoma awareness month," said Deb Girard, Executive Director of MFNE. "Every year we push out messaging to ensure the public is getting educated about the dangers of melanoma. This year is no different and we have some exciting partnerships to announce."

MFNE has partnered with [Solect Energy](#), a leading commercial solar company based in Hopkinton, MA, to educate the company's outdoor-worker staff members about the importance of protecting your skin. "As a solar company, we understand how powerful the sun can be," said Ken Driscoll, Founding Principal and CEO of Solect. "We're proud to partner with the MFNE to help spread awareness and educate the outdoor & construction worker community about the impact of sun exposure on health. With our crews being exposed to the sun everyday, we want to make sure they understand the importance of protecting their skin and getting regular skin checks."

The two organizations will host a training for Solect employees and partner vendors on Thursday, May 21 where Solect will present UPF protective clothing and sunscreen to their entire construction team.

Additionally, MFNE has enlisted the help of former Major League Baseball Player and skin cancer survivor, Mike Trombley. "I'm excited to be partnering with the Melanoma Foundation of New England," said Trombley. "I understand first hand, the importance of being proactive with your health and getting your skin checked."

Mike will be speaking at various events sharing his personal story to help raise awareness. "We see the highest mortality rate of melanoma in men over 50," said Girard. "We're hoping that a personal story from a former MLB player will really help resonate with that population."

MFNE will also be hosting a variety of educational and social events throughout the month spreading awareness around New England. They are as follows:

- Monday, May 4: Melanoma Monday!
- Thursday, May 7: MFNE appears live on 1450 The Hall
- Monday, May 11: MFNE appears live on The Rhode Island
- Thursday, May 14: Your Skin Is In, Bates College, Lewiston, ME
- Wednesday, May 20: [Martinis for Melanoma](#), Providence, sponsored by SkinPros
- Thursday, May 21: Solect Energy Sun-Safety Training, Hopkinton, MA
- Saturday, May 23: Warwick Mall Melanoma Awareness Day, Warwick
- Tuesday, May 26: MFNE appears live on WWLP's Mass Appeal
- Wednesday, May 27: [Melanoma Symposium](#), Boston
- Saturday, May 30: [Become a Buddy](#), Waltham

In 2014 the Surgeon General issued a Call to Action to governments, health care officials, groups, families, and individuals across the nation to address skin cancer as a major public health concern. According to the Call to Action, as many as 90% of melanomas are likely to have been caused by UV exposure, which is highly preventable through proper sun safety measures and avoidance of cosmetic UV exposure, like tanning beds. Melanoma rates are

increasing faster than nearly all other cancers.

MFNE will be available all month for interviews regarding melanoma prevention and early detection. For more information, please contact Meghan Rothschild at [MRothschild@mfne.org](mailto:MRothschild@mfne.org).

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The Melanoma Foundation of New England (MFNE) was founded in 1999 by Mel and Marilyn Rubin in memory of their son Mark who lost his battle with the melanoma. MFNE's mission is to reduce the incidence of melanoma in the New England region. We provide a [variety of educational programs](#) targeting the prevention and early detection of skin cancer and melanoma for both children and adults. MFNE also assists patients and their caregivers struggling with melanoma by offering [support groups](#), [educational programs](#), and [Billy's Buddies](#), a one-on-one patient advocacy and support program. These programs are all free. The Melanoma Foundation of New England is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

### About Solect

Solect is a full-service solar photovoltaic (PV) project developer based in Massachusetts, delivering smart solar solutions to help businesses and organizations reduce energy costs. As an industry leader in commercial solar energy, Solect takes a practical approach to the development, installation and on-going support of each system. We partner closely with our customers, providing strong financial insight and solar technology expertise to optimize their investment while creating a positive impact on the environment. Solect currently has installed over 13 MW (megawatts) of commercial PV systems, with a primary focus on commercial, light industrial and institutional properties in New England. For more information, visit <http://www.solect.com>.