

home power

The Hands-On Journal of Home-Made Power

Solar Energy *is* Smart Business

SOLLIGHT LIGHTCAP PV LANTERN/ WATER BOTTLE

(www.sollight.com, \$24.95)

Backpackers will delight in this brilliant concept: A water bottle that doubles as a lantern. It looks like any other wide-mouth polycarbonate bottle, but a PV module in its cap charges batteries for two selectable LED bulbs: white for bright light, and red for low light (and minimal energy use). The lightbulb, batteries, and PV module are all molded into the cap, so there's no need to worry about battery electrolyte mingling with your spring water! Four hours of sunshine provide several hours of light; or switch to the red LED and leave it on all night long.



portable power

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Our Guide to High-Performance Charge Controllers

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for Laptops,
Cell Phones, iPods

United Bicycle Institute owner
Ron Sutphin makes the business case
for solar electricity. p. 26

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