

Links To More Information

LIPA Web Site: www.lipower.org

Solar programs & energy conservation tips.

RELI Web Site: www.lishines.org

Local info about solar & other programs.

U.S. Dept of Energy: www.energy.gov

Technology, energy sources, financing, more.

U.S. Dept of Energy: eere.energy.gov

Energy efficiency & renewable energy info.

Environ. Protection Agency: www.epa.gov

Info on human health and the environment.

Energy Star: www.energystar.gov

Information on energy efficient choices.

Cornell University Cooperative Extension:

housing.cce.cornell.edu/eef-sheets-guide.php

Home energy conservation fact sheets.

NYS Public Service Comm: www.askpsc.com

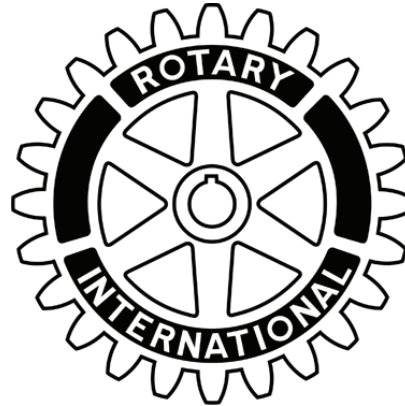
Consumer Web site - energy conservation, more.

NYS Energy \$mart: getenergysmart.org

Energy efficiency information, education, more.

U.S. Green Building Council: www.usgbc.org

Information about environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work.



RECS 7260 is the Energy Conservation and Sustainability Task Force of Rotary District 7260 in Suffolk County, Long Island, New York

The mission of RECS 7260 is to promote energy alternatives, conservation, education and consciousness for adults and students by disseminating information, creating programs and demonstrations, encouraging recognition of fiscal benefits & financing options, and raising awareness of humankind's role as caretakers of the Earth.

Contacts for more information:

RECS 7260

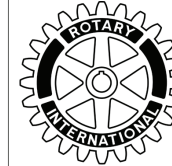
David Roy Hensen, Chair
davehen@optonline.net

LIPA

1-800-692-2626
<http://www.lipower.org/cei/solar.html>

U.S. Green Building Council - LI

47 25-A, Suite 1
East Setauket, NY 11733
631.689-1120 ext 102

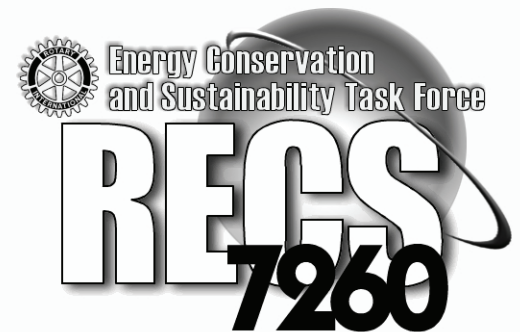


Energy Conservation and Sustainability Task Force

Solar Energy Is Here

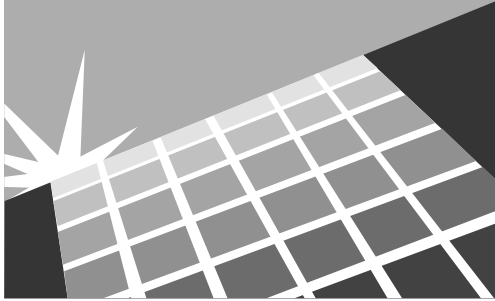
Photovoltaics For Your Home or Business

Reducing Your Energy Bills With Technology and Conservation



David Roy Hensen, Chair
davehen@optonline.net

☀ Photovoltaic (PV) Systems ☀



Rising energy costs, technology improvements, and significant financial incentives have combined to turn the dream of harnessing solar energy into a reality. Installing a photovoltaic (PV) system is a realistic approach to reducing electrical energy costs for homes and businesses. Homeowners also sell excess energy generated back to the power company for further savings. Combining PV systems with energy conservation measures, such as using compact fluorescent lighting, installing adequate insulation, and other easily-done actions, will result in significant savings on your electrical bill.

Facts & Figures

Size: PV panel systems can be of varying sizes. A system that will typically generate one-half of a home's usual electrical energy needs is approximately 5 kW (kilowatts.) On Long Island, this system will generate about 6,000 kWh (kilowatt-hrs) of electricity per year (if not shaded by trees.)

Maintenance/Durability: Solar panels, whether installed on a rooftop or the ground, require virtually no maintenance over their 30+ year lifespan. Power inverters (convert panel DC electric to AC) may require 1 to 3 replacements.

Costs: Current installation costs are generally between \$7.75 and \$8.50 per kilowatt before rebates and tax credits.

Incentives: LIPA presently offers residential & commercial rebates of \$3.75 per kW or \$4.75/kW for not-for-profit, school & municipal installations. The maximum rebate is on a 10 kW system. Tax credits are also available. For homeowners, up to \$7,000 in State & Federal credits; for businesses, 30% in credits + 5-year accelerated depreciation.

Net Installation Costs: After LIPA rebates, and tax credits, a 5 kW system can generally cost a homeowner between \$13,000 and \$17,000. Incentives (listed above) make the net cost of a similar-sized business system even less. The good news for homeowners is that using a home improvement loan to pay for installation, spreads the cost over many years plus savings on electric bills help repay the loan.

Savings & Benefits: Buying a PV system does more than give you a degree of financial independence from the power company. You are fixing the cost of future energy needs. And we all know that energy costs will be rising in the years

to come. Any savings, therefore, will increase over time. In addition, homeowners sell back excess energy to the power company for potential further savings.

More facts and figures about PV solar panel systems are available from LIPA's Solar Pioneer/Energy Info Hotline: 1-800-692-2626 and at <http://www.lipower.org/cei/solar.html>.

Finding A Solar Installer

The answer to the question of "Which solar installer to use?" is the same as for any construction contractor: compare estimates and evaluate references (other customers, Better Business Bureau) & credentials (from government agencies & industry associations.)

Fortunately there are reliable sources listing solar installers:. Here are two:

RELI (Renewable Energy Long Island):
PO Box 789, Bridgehampton NY 11932
631-537-8282

<http://lishines.org/contractorselector.php>
NYSEIA (NY Solar Energy Industries Assn):
533 Woodford Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760
518-495-1454
<http://www.nyseia.org/>



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and Sustainability Task Force**

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