Solar Technology Basics

Photovoltaic (PV) systems generate electricity that can be used by any electrical device in your home – reducing the amount of electricity you need to purchase. PV systems in Western Washington cost an average of $3,500 to $5,000 per kilowatt (kW) installed, depending on system size and complexity. An optimally installed system in Snohomish County or Camano Island will generate approximately 1,100 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year for each kilowatt (kW) of installed capacity.

Site specifics are very important to the performance of a PV system. Consult with a PUD-registered solar installer for a solar site assessment and energy production estimates.

Get Started!
Call our Energy Hotline:

425-783-1700

Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm
Toll-free in Western Washington and outside the Everett local calling area at 1-877-783-1000, ext. 1700

www.snopud.com/solarexpress

Printed on recycled paper
**Why Solar?**
By installing a Photovoltaic (PV) system, you will:
- Be a leader in creating clean, local, renewable energy
- Reduce your environmental impact
- Help meet the energy needs of the next generation
- Help support energy independence

**What We Offer**
The Solar Express program supports the installation of PV systems in your PUD's service territory with:
- Free information and expert advice
- Cash incentives
- Washington State Production Incentive assistance
- List of registered solar designers and installers

**Eligibility**
The Solar Express program is available to residential and commercial PUD customers.
To qualify, customers must:
- Contract with a Solar Express Registered Installer
- Obtain pre-approval from the PUD
And the site must have:
- At least 75% of ideal solar resource (taking into account shade, orientation and tilt of the panels)
- At least 15-year roof life remaining (for rooftop installations)

*Systems not eligible for the Solar Express program may still apply for PUD interconnection and net metering, and may still be eligible for state and federal incentives.*

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**The Solar Express Incentive**
Your PUD is helping to make solar energy more affordable!
The Solar Express program offers a cash incentive of $300 per kW for qualifying PV installations. The incentive is limited to $2,000 for residential and $8,000 for commercial premises.
For complete program details and qualifications, please see the program handbook available at [www.snopud.com/solarexpress](http://www.snopud.com/solarexpress).

**Net Metering Basics**
Solar and other renewable resources occasionally generate electricity at times when your demand is low. At these times, you can get credit for delivering excess electricity back to the utility grid. Your credits will be applied to your bill and unused credits will be carried over month-to-month. These Net Metering credits are designed to administratively balance your production with your demand on an annual basis.

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**Additional Incentives**

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<th><strong>Estimated Financial Benefits</strong></th>
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<td><strong>6kW Example</strong></td>
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**Federal**
- A tax credit of 30% is available on the purchase and installation cost of residential PV systems. Installations must meet certain criteria to be eligible. Visit [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org).

**State**
- Washington State offers production incentives of $0.15 to $0.54 per kWh for qualifying PV systems. The incentive amount depends on equipment used and is capped at $5,000 per year until June 30, 2020.

**Net Metering Basics**
- In addition to the state production incentive, customers may receive credits for delivering excess electricity back to the utility grid. For more information, visit [www.snopud.com/netmetering](http://www.snopud.com/netmetering).

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**Snohomish PUD and Renewable Energy:**
For decades, the Northwest has benefited from clean, renewable hydroelectric power, which uses no fossil fuels and produces no emissions. As part of its climate change policy, the PUD is looking to green energy sources and conservation to meet future energy needs.
Today, the PUD is pursuing a range of renewable energy options including biomass, biogas, wind, small-scale hydro and solar power. The PUD has also led the way in research for tidal power and geothermal energy. Join us in being a renewable energy leader.

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**It’s a great time to consider a solar energy system for your home.**
**Equipment costs are lower than ever.**

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*“With all the benefits, credits, and incentives, we’re saving serious money, now and into the future.”*
– Solar Express Customer Carol M., Arlington

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* prices vary, consult a solar express installer

**) consult your tax advisor