

## Generate and Sell Your Energy

Your installer will set up your system to feed excess power into the grid. Then you can get paid for your clean power and, in addition, sell Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)!

**Net Metering:** your excess power up to 2 MW will be credited at market rates against future electric bills.

**Sell RECs:** Energy Consumers Alliance of New England (ECANE) will pay you \$30/MWh of renewable generation. Contact Kelly Muellman at 617-524-3950 ext 150 or [kelly@massenergy.com](mailto:kelly@massenergy.com) for details or to sign up.



Visit [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) for a complete and up-to-date list of incentives for producing and selling clean energy in CT.



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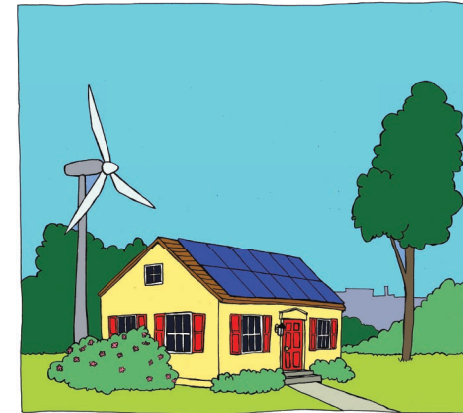
This Guide was prepared for informational purposes only. The Guide does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice. Use of the Guide does not create an attorney-client relationship between you and Harvard Law School's Environmental Law and Policy Clinic. Because of the rapid pace of change in this area of the law, the Guide should not be used as a substitute for competent legal advice from a licensed professional attorney in your state.

Financial estimates are based on typical Northeastern household energy usage and prices at the time of preparation. The Guide provides general information about your state that may not be applicable to your specific locale. Information on tax incentives, utility services, rebate programs, and other policies is subject to change.

Illustrations by Aurora Andrews and Amy Lien.

## SIMPLE WAYS TO SAVE MONEY & THE ENVIRONMENT

**Practical Tips on Energy Use from the  
Harvard Environmental Law & Policy Clinic.**



## CONNECTICUT

## Support Clean Power: It's Cheap & Easy

Buying energy from renewable sources reduces air pollution, fights global warming, and builds the CT economy. Switching takes just minutes and costs only about \$5-10/month.

### Switch to Clean Power

All CT utility customers have clean power buying options. When you switch, you will continue to receive a monthly bill from your current electric utility. No interruption of service will occur.

- Get 50% or 100% of your power from clean sources.
- To sign up, call one of these clean energy suppliers with your account number:

Sterling Planet      1-877-457-2306  
Community Energy      1-866-WIND-123 (946-3123)

Visit [www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com/options.htm](http://www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com/options.htm) for details.

### Support Renewable Generation

You can also offset the environmental impact of your energy use by buying Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

- Match your power use with RECs to offset your energy impact and to support clean energy generation.
- Choose a certified REC provider here:  
[www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/markets/certificates.shtml?page=1](http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/markets/certificates.shtml?page=1).



## Conserve Energy & Save Money

Big savings are in your power! Reducing energy use can save you hundreds of dollars each year. It's also the easiest and best way you can fight global warming.

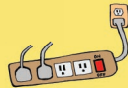
### Upgrade!

- Use compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs). CFLs waste 75% less electricity than incandescent bulbs and last 10 times as long, saving \$50-100 over their lifetime.
- Buy efficient **Energy Star** electronics and appliances. They can lower your bill up to 30%! Cash rebates are available to help you upgrade: call WISE-USE (below) for info.



### Pull the Plug!

Plugged-in electronics use power even when turned off. This "Phantom Load" could account for over 10% of your electric bill.



**Tip:** Connect electronics to a power strip. When you aren't using them, just turn off the power strip to eliminate the phantom load.

### Turn it Off!

The less you use, the less you pay. So always turn off lights, TVs, computers, and other electronics when not in use.

**Bonus Tip:** Setting your thermostat to 68° in the winter and to 78° in summer could save you 10-15% on heating and cooling costs.



### HELP IS AVAILABLE

Whether you rent or own your home, these **FREE** services can help you save.

#### WISE-USE Energy Hotline – for all CT residents

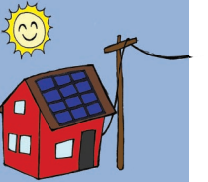
Call 1-877-WISE-USE (947-3873) or visit [www.ctenergyinfo.com](http://www.ctenergyinfo.com). Ask about rebates on Energy Star products and home energy audits.

#### Low-Income Assistance – for eligible residents

For help with home energy efficiency and paying your bills. Call 1-877-388-WRAP (388-9727). UI Energy Customers can also call UI Helps at 203-499-2648.

## Create, Use, & Sell Clean Power

Become energy independent! Renewable power generation can offer homeowners significant long-term savings and even net income. Moreover, incentive programs help cover upfront costs.



### Getting Started

Installing a solar or wind power system is easier and more affordable than you may think. Use these resources to learn more about your options:

- For solar photovoltaic (PV) projects, visit the CT Clean Energy Fund at [www.ctcleanenergy.com](http://www.ctcleanenergy.com) or call (860) 563-0015.
- For geothermal heat pump projects, go to [www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/geothermal.asp](http://www.cl-p.com/clmres/energy/geothermal.asp) (CL&P), or [www.uinet.com](http://www.uinet.com) (UI).

### Rebates and Tax Breaks

Many tax breaks and cash rebates are available to help you cover upfront costs. Your tax preparer, utility, and contractor can help you make the most of these incentive programs.

#### Federal Tax Credits: for Solar PV

- 30% of costs, up to \$2000. Program expires December 31, 2008. Use IRS Form 5695.
- Watch Congress for future tax credits for wind and for an extended PV credit.

#### Federal Mortgage: for Solar PV

- For details, visit [www.resnet.us/ratings/mortgages/default.htm](http://www.resnet.us/ratings/mortgages/default.htm).

#### State Incentives: for Solar PV and Geothermal Heat

- Sales, use, and property tax exemptions for households with solar and geothermal systems.
- Get a \$500/ton rebate (maximum \$3,000) for installing an ARI-rated geothermal system.



#### State Grants/Low-Interest Loans

- Learn about financing consumer-side generation at the Department of Public Utility Control website: [www.ct.gov/dpuc/site/default.asp](http://www.ct.gov/dpuc/site/default.asp).

(Continues on reverse)