

# Your Guide to Solar in Oregon



## About Solar PV Systems

Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems produce electricity from the sun. These systems can be mounted on roofs to provide power to the building and back to the grid.

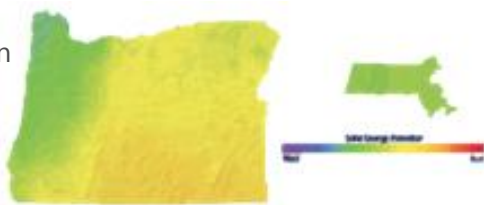
### Parts of a PV system

- **PV array:** produces DC power
- **Inverter:** changes the DC electricity to AC electricity that your home requires
- **Production Meter:** measures power produced by your system
- **Building Breaker Box:** sends electricity to your home or out to the grid
- **Two-way Billing Meter (Net Meter):** measures net power to or from the grid

### Does solar work in Oregon?

YES!

Oregon has more solar potential, but Massachusetts generates more than 900 percent more solar energy!<sup>1</sup>



## Costs and Financing

The cost of your PV system will depend on many factors, including size. Did you know incentives can cover 65-85% of the cost to go solar?

- Oregon Residential Energy Tax Credit
  - \$1.70 per watt produced
- Energy Trust of Oregon Rebate
  - PGE offers \$0.70/watt up to \$7,000 per year
  - Pacific Power offers \$0.66/watt up to \$6,600 per year
- Solar Federal Tax Credit (expires 12/31/16)
- OR Department of Energy State Energy Loan Program (SELP)
- Utilities other than PGE and Pacific Power may also offer additional incentives<sup>2</sup>

### Incentives Example

PGE Customer with 4 kW system<sup>3</sup>

\$16,000	Total Installed Cost
-\$3,200	Energy Trust Rebate
\$12,800	Amount paid to contractor
-\$3,840	Federal Tax Credit
-\$6,000	Oregon Tax Credit
<hr/>	
\$2,960	Final cost to homeowner

*The data provided is an example. Local markets may vary.*

## Next Steps to Go Solar!

1. Contact contractors for bids through [Solar Oregon](#) and/or [Energy Trust](#).
2. Receive site assessments. Contractors will:
  - Review your electrical bills
  - Evaluate your roof
  - Look at your electrical system
3. Compare bids and choose. Consider:
  - Ownership of equipment, leasing, or power purchase agreements
  - Equipment warranties
  - Value over near- and long-term
  - Contractor reputation, workmanship warranty, and additional services
4. Apply for a solar loan, if desired
5. Get Solar!

### Sources for Solar Loans

Admirals Bank

<http://www.admiralsbank.com>, 800-715-8472

Umpqua Bank

[www.greenstreetloan.com](http://www.greenstreetloan.com), 866-790-2121

Want more info? Check out <http://nwsolarcommunities.org> and <http://solaroregon.org/>

<sup>1</sup> [OSPIRG Students](#)

<sup>2</sup> Check with your local electric utility for availability

<sup>3</sup> [Solar OR](#), based on 2015 average installed cost