HOW MUCH DO PV SYSTEMS COST & WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

An approximate installed cost for a typical four-kilowatt PV system is $32,000-40,000 before incentives. Through the New York Energy $mart Program℠ and potential Federal and New York State tax credits, the initial cost of these systems can be reduced by up to $25,000 if the PV system is on a New York ENERGY STAR® Labeled Home.

A four-kilowatt system will produce about 4,600 kilowatt hours of electricity annually. A typical New York State residential home uses about 600 kilowatt hours per month.

A PV system is an investment that helps the environment and makes you less vulnerable to increases in the price of electricity.

Incentives are subject to change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn about PV incentives available through the **New York Energy $mart℠** Program, please call

1-866-NYSERDA

or visit

www.PowerNaturally.org

For information about New York ENERGY STAR® Labeled Homes, call

1-877-NY-SMART

or visit

www.GetEnergySmart.org

New York State
Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle | Albany, NY | 12203

Rev. 5/07

Photovoltaics

POWER & NATURALLY℠ RELIABLY

with electricity from the sun.

NYSERDA
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Solar Power ...Naturally

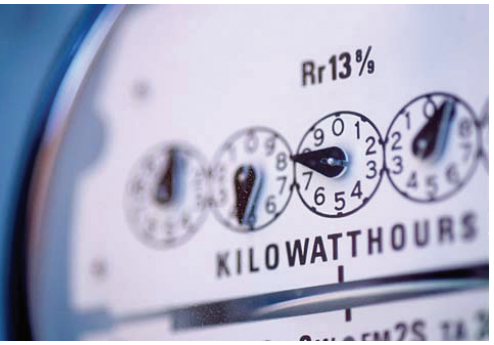
WHAT ARE PHOTOVOLTAICS?

Photovoltaic or PV systems convert sunlight directly into electricity that can serve a portion of your home's electrical needs. PV systems are connected to your home's electrical service panel and are used to supplement your existing utility service.

When the PV system is generating more electricity than your home is using,

it spins the electric meter backwards

and you will receive a credit for the excess power from your utility.



With proper location, a PV system works anytime the sun is shining. It works best when facing south and should not be shaded by trees, nearby buildings, or other obstructions.

WHY BUY A PV SYSTEM?

- PV systems are gentle on the environment. In contrast with electricity generated by fossil fuels, PV-generated electricity creates no air or water pollution.
- When combined with a battery system, a PV unit can provide you with power when utility power is out.

WHY PUT A PV SYSTEM ON AN ENERGY STAR®-LABELED HOME?

It costs less to reduce your utility bill through conservation and energy efficiency than with a PV system. An ENERGY STAR®-Labeled Home is 30% more efficient than a conventional home. The more energy-efficient your house is, the greater the impact of a PV system.

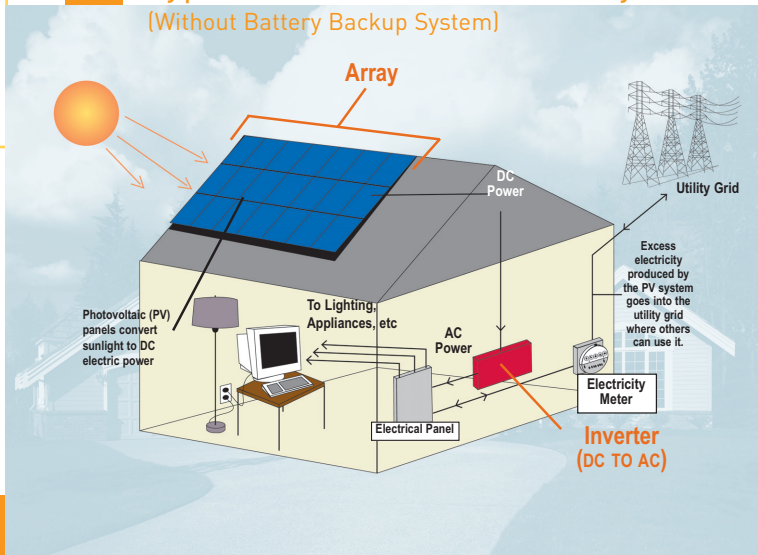
HOW MUCH CAN YOU SAVE?

It depends on:

- how large the PV system is
- how sunny the local area is
- the orientation of the PV panels
- how much you pay your utility for electricity

For example:

A four-kilowatt PV system located on the south-facing roof of a home can produce about 4,600 kilowatt hours per year and can typically offset 70–80% of a home's electricity needs. When combined with improving the energy efficiency of your home, the savings on your electric bill can be even more significant.

Typical Grid-Connected PV System

(Without Battery Backup System)