



**RESIDENTIAL CASE STUDY**  
CUSTOMER ANITA & TOM HENRY  
STEPHENTOWN, NY



## NEW STEPHENTOWN HOME HAS SOLAR HOT WATER AND OTHER ENERGY-EFFICIENCY FEATURES

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*Solar panels capture the sun's energy, which is then used to heat hot water.*

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***“We have never run out of hot water.... We’re loving it.”***

Anita Henry designed the Stephentown home she shares with husband Tom in alignment with both feng shui principles and energy efficiency. Surrounded by scenic hills outside a quaint Colonial-era village, the home has a solar hot water system.

### **Solar Hot Water System Shines**

“We love getting free hot water,” says Henry. “For all but three months of the year, we get 100 percent of our hot water from solar panels.” Heating water in her previous home cost \$50 to \$60 monthly.

### **Integral Efficiency**

The Radiant Store in Troy installed two rooftop collectors, a holding tank and the controls for her solar hot water system when she built her home three years ago. “It was part of the construction, and it went smoothly,” Henry reports.

The system actually outperforms projections. “The reality is actually better than what was predicted,” says Henry, adding that this inspired her to recommend The Radiant Store to her sister. “My sister got all excited, and she had them put one in at her house.”

**THINK YOU'RE READY TO GET INTO HOT WATER?**

To learn more call 1 866 NYSERDA or visit [solarhotwater.nyseda.ny.gov](http://solarhotwater.nyseda.ny.gov)



*Water heated in rooftop collectors flows to a basement storage tank for use throughout the house.*

### Designing Efficiency

Cozily clad in wooden-looking fiber cement board siding, Anita and Tom’s home welcomes visitors with porches on its north and west sides. Spray-foam insulation seals roofline, cellar, and walls, while high-efficiency windows and doors and careful seam sealing keep warm air inside in the winter and heat outside in the summer. A heat recovery ventilation system balances fresh-air intake with exhaust, extracting heat from the outgoing air. “We have all ENERGY STAR® appliances and lighting,” says Henry.

### Support Makes Solar Hot Water Affordable

Support is available from NYSERDA for solar hot water systems that displace electrically heated hot water. State and federal tax credits also help make systems more affordable, as Henry found.\*

“There was a federal tax credit of 30 percent, a New York State tax credit of 25 percent, and NYSERDA also provided [support],” Henry explains. “The three together made the system totally affordable.”

“We have never run out of hot water regardless of whether there were clouds or sunshine all day long,” Henry says. “We’re loving it.”

For more information, visit [nyserdera.ny.gov/solar-hot-water](http://nyserdera.ny.gov/solar-hot-water)

*NYSERDA offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and support to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect the environment and create clean-energy jobs. A public benefit corporation, NYSERDA has been developing partnerships to advance innovative energy solutions in New York since 1975.*



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NYSERDA support is currently only available for customers that heat their hot water with electricity.  
\*Always consult with your qualified tax professional to determine your eligibility for tax credits.



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