

GOING SOLAR

OPTIONS FOR HOMEOWNERS



SOLAR LIGHT TUBES FOR DAYLIGHTING

Bring natural daylight into deeper interior spaces with solar light tubes.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 5–7 years⁴



SKYLIGHTS

Bring natural daylight into rooms with skylights

AVERAGE PAYBACK: Highly variable, depending on design, performance, and other variables, including home resale value



INSTALL AWNINGS & BLINDS ON WINDOWS

Keep the summer sun from heating your house by installing awnings and/or blinds on windows that face east, south, and/or west.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 1–4 years⁵



APPLY LOW-E WINDOW FILM

Let light, but not much else, into your home with low-e window films that reflect up to 90% or more of heat.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 2–5 years⁶



SOLAR POOL HEATING

Heat your pool with solar hot water panels.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 1.5–4 years³



POOL COVER / BLANKET

Let the sun heat your pool and keep that heat in at night with a black solar cover / blanket.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: < 1 year⁸

PHOTOVOLTAICS



Generate some or all of your electricity with a solar PV system.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 0–23 years, depending on factors including financing, ownership, utility retail electricity rates, and incentives.¹

PLANT DECIDUOUS TREES



Planting deciduous trees on the east, south, and/or west sides of your home keeps the hot sun out during summer but lets the light and its warmth in during winter.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: variable⁷

CLOTHESLINE



Use the sun to dry your clothes—possibly the simplest and most affordable use of solar power.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: Immediate

SOLAR LANDSCAPE & PATIO LIGHTING



Light walkways, patios, and landscaping with inexpensive, solar-powered lights

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 2 years⁹



SOLAR POOL HEATING

Heat your pool with solar hot water panels.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 1.5–4 years³



POOL COVER / BLANKET

Let the sun heat your pool and keep that heat in at night with a black solar cover / blanket.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: < 1 year⁸

SOLAR HOT WATER



Heat your water with a solar water heating system, saving 50–80% off water heating bills.

AVERAGE PAYBACK: 6–10 years, depending on cost of gas or electricity and how much solar offsets the total hot water bill.²

* average payback = simple payback on project cost versus energy savings/generation, and does not take into account increased resale value of a home