



PRESS RELEASE

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Town to Boost Solar Rebate Incentive for Local Residents in 2022

NANTUCKET, MA –

Starting January 1st, 2022, island residents wishing to “go solar” will be eligible to receive a greater incentive from the Town of Nantucket. The Town will soon be increasing the maximum value of its popular [Solar Rebate](#) by 50%--from \$4,000 to \$6,000 to further incentivize the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on primary residential properties.

The decision to boost the amount of the Town’s Solar Rebate was prompted by recent cuts to the Commonwealth’s “SMART” solar incentive. By awarding an enhanced incentive of \$825/kW up to \$6,000, the Town will offset approximately 20% of the total cost for an average residential solar-PV system on Nantucket, making solar ownership more achievable for year-round residents. Since the Local Solar Rebate program was launched in 2018, the Town’s Energy Office has awarded over \$218,000 to 64 residents who have connected 570 Megawatts of solar energy to the local grid.

“We are excited to offer an enhanced Solar Rebate to Nantucket residents,” says Lauren Sinatra, Town Energy Coordinator. “The Solar Rebate Program is designed to absorb some of the premium costs of installing solar-PV systems on Nantucket and align payback periods with systems installed off island. We hope this incentive will further encourage island residents to invest in renewable energy.”

Local solar installers have praised the Town's decision. According to Karen Alence of Cotuit Solar, "It is a wonderful incentive to help year-round families solar power their homes. With SMART rates decreasing and material costs increasing, raising the solar rebate will really help keep solar affordable." "This is a fantastic improvement to an already great benefit for year-round residents looking to make the move to clean energy," added Tim Carruthers of ACKSmart Energy.

The Town's Solar Rebate Program is funded by an extra 1/10th cent per kilowatt hour (kWh) charge that is included in the [Nantucket PowerChoice](#) electric rate (11.065 ¢/kWh). **Nantucket PowerChoice** supports local renewable energy projects and maximizes consumer protections, all at a price below National Grid's Basic Service (14.821 ¢/kWh). Increased solar energy generated on Nantucket not only helps to reduce the island's carbon footprint, but also helps to decrease summer peak load and costly capacity charges, resulting in lower electric supply and distribution costs for all Nantucket electric ratepayers. Residents can opt out of **Nantucket PowerChoice** at any time.

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