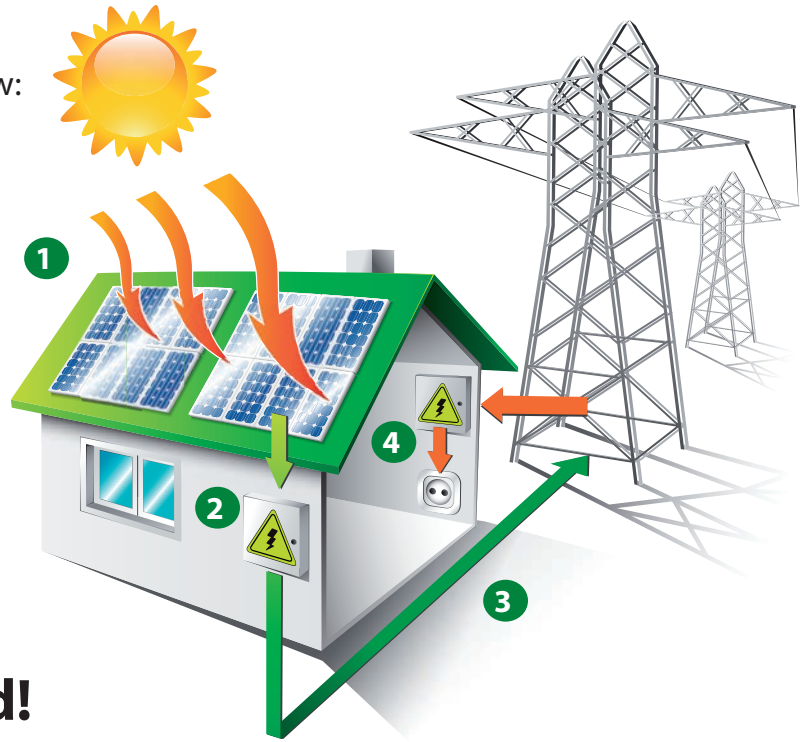


How Solar Works

Solar electric systems, also called PV systems, use sunlight to produce electricity. Here's how:

- 1 **Sunlight activates the panels, producing electricity.**
- 2 **Electricity passes through an inverter and is converted to usable power.**
- 3 **The inverter sends power to your house. Anything you don't use is transferred to the power grid.**
- 4 **The meter runs backwards and you save up to 90% on your electric bill.**



Your questions answered!

Will I still have electricity at night or when it is cloudy outside?

Yes. You will still be connected to your electric company, so your electricity will work the same way that it works now, except that your bills will be lower.

Will I still get an electric bill?

Yes. The system will produce most of your electricity, but not all of it. You will still need to pay your gas bill.

How long does the system last?

The panels are covered by a 25-year warranty, and last between 30 and 40 years. GRID Alternatives provides a 10-year labor warranty.

What if there's a blackout?

Because the system has no battery storage, you will not have power during a blackout/power outage.

How is it REALLY free?

GRID Alternatives is able to provide solar electric systems at NO-COST through generous donations, equipment partners, client lunches, and local incentives such as the Solar For All program. The District of Columbia allocated funding for the goal of providing 100,000 low-to-moderate income households with solar power such as the Solar For All program administered through the Department of Energy and the Environment (DOEE).



MORE QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH!

DCoutreach@gridalternatives.org

(202) 602-0191

GRID Alternatives is a community-based organization that brings the benefits of solar technology to families that need the financial savings most, while giving volunteers and job trainees hands-on solar installation experience.

GRID Alternatives is a fully licensed solar contractor, DC license number 420214000145.

GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic

1629 Benning Road NE | Washington, DC 20002 | gridalternatives.org/midatlantic





Solar FAQs

What are the income qualifications?

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	GROSS INCOME (District of Columbia)
1	\$52,550
2	\$60,050
3	\$67,550
4	\$70,050
5	\$81,100
6	\$87,100
7	\$93,100
8	\$99,100

What is the environmental benefit of solar?

Each electron generated by solar means there is one less electron generated from a fossil fuel source. With more solar systems, this will result in cleaner air and each system results in the equivalent of planting 1,000 trees or preventing over 50 tons of carbon dioxide emissions from entering the atmosphere.

How might storms or snow impact my system?

Solar systems are robust and engineered to withstand local storm conditions including hail, snow, and high winds. The panels will heat up quickly and remove snow from the roof.

What if I do not own my own home?

As of 2016 we began working with renters and multi-family units at the Parkchester Apartments under the agency of the NHP Foundation. If you think your landlord may be interested, please refer them to Henry Neoman, our Multi-Family Project Coordinator, at hneoman@gridalternatives.org

Are there opportunities to give back to GRID?

Yes, there are a number of ways you can give back. These include: helping install your solar panels, acting as a GRID solar ambassador in your community educating others about solar, contributing a portion of your savings towards the maintenance of your system, and providing lunch for the job trainees and installers during your installation.

What is net metering?

Net metering allows you to offset energy consumption with your energy production. At the end of the month your final electric bill is the difference between total usage and the electricity your solar panels produced.

