

# **GREEN ENERGY : HOW TO START CONVERTING YOUR LIFESTYLE**

Green energy may go a long way in making sure the world we know today is around for tomorrow. Green energy is using natural energy like energy from the sun or the wind or water and geothermal energy instead of using fossil fuels that pollute the world for generations. Green systems will keep the world clean and living for a long time.

Today it is a relatively simple process to start to convert to green energy. Solar Energy is becoming more and more prevalent in this day and age. Home solar systems are easier to install, they no longer take up as much space as they did before, and they are easy to maintain. Solar energy can be used to produce electricity and heat and store water for home use. Solar panels are readily available all over the world and they are easily installed by a solar professional. There are also opportunities to build your own panels and heated water systems that can be cheap for the homeowner.

Homeowners can also take advantage of passive solar heating systems. Your house must face south and efficient windows must be installed that will allow sunlight to flood the house in the daytime. Brick or stone retains the heat and releases it later when the temperatures cool down.

Wind systems are easy for a homeowner to maintain. You can purchase windmill kits that can be built by a professional and some can even be put together by the homeowner. The windmill turns and creates electricity.

You can get windmills that will become part of the roof or you can get one that will stand up by itself in the yard. If your property receives a good amount of wind per day it is advisable to use this method of green systems.

If you have a stream that babbles through your property you can have hydroelectric power. This type of renewable energy is a little more difficult to work with but homeowners can use it as well. The water source must be flowing constantly in order to use this source and a turbine is used to create the electricity. It is not often hydro power is used in a home system, but it can be done.

The best way to use green energy is to use more than one of the above systems. The best thing about is that you save a lot of money on electricity and you can also come away with a profit. In the United States most states have to buy any excess energy you may produce and you could end up with a profit.

Maintenance is very simple on renewable energy systems. Solar power systems do not usually need to be maintained much at all and wind and hydro systems need to be oiled once in a while. It probably requires less maintenance than an electric or gas system.

If you can not go green with a alternative energy system there are other things you can do to help the environment. Replace all regular light bulbs with long lasting ones. Start using cloth towels and washable plates instead of filling landfills with paper ones. When

possible purchase a hybrid car that does not need gasoline to run all the time and does not give off harmful emissions.

Make sure your windows and doors fit well and if not make sure to add caulking so that no heat or cooling will escape. Make sure the freezer is full when running it even if you fill it with jugs of water. Do what you can to make sure the earth will be around for our children and our children's children.

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