

This type of system costs \$2,700 to \$3,000 installed and reduces pollution by 3 tons per year compared to water heaters using fossil fuels. That's a lot less pollution to breathe. Plus, a solar water heater will usually pay for itself in heating cost savings in three to eight years.



A 2-FOOT OVERHANGING ROOF will keep a home cooler in the summer by blocking direct sun and warmer in the winter.

Solar-generated electricity

Photovoltaic (PV) panels are used to produce electricity from solar energy. These panels are usually located on the roof of a house, where they catch full sun throughout the day. They also are able to tilt automatically to different angles in order to take full advantage of the sun's path.

Most residential packages will run \$5,500 to \$22,500 for installation, but the homeowner has the option to start small and grow the system over time. It requires little to no maintenance, and payback time depends on the size of the home and electrical use.

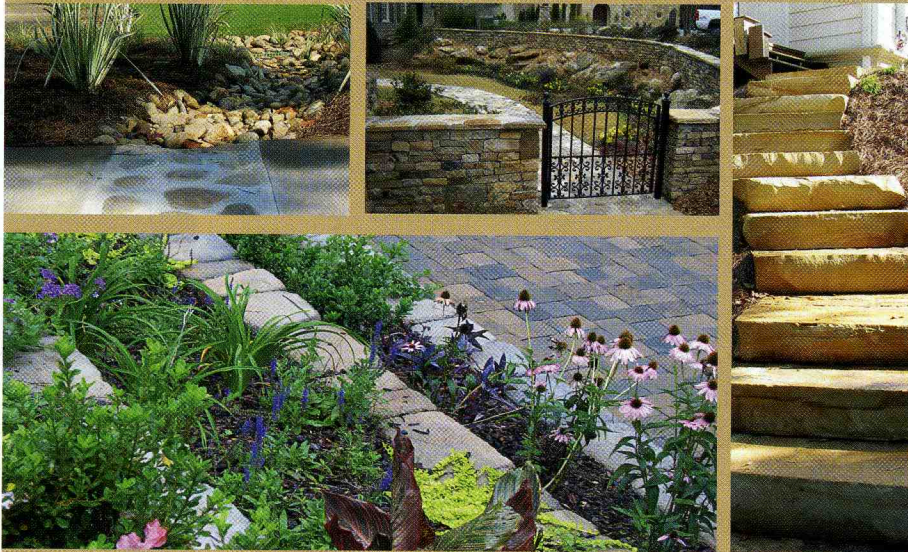
Before you make an investment in these various solar technologies, Southface Energy Institute recommends having your home tested for energy efficiency. Ductwork, windows, attics and doors can be properly sealed and insulation added in basements and attics. Then, when you invest in solar energy, you'll protect yourself from rising fuel costs, prepare for the future and make a commitment to environmental responsibility.

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