

Solar Hot Water Site Assessment Information Sheet

Please use the Focus on Energy Renewable Energy Site Assessment Coupon Request form to request a solar hot water site assessment. The following includes important information that you must review before you request a site assessment. After carefully reading this information sheet, complete all sections of the separate request form and send it in following the instructions on the form.

What is a solar hot water site assessment?

Solar hot water site assessments are designed to provide customers with site-specific information about how solar water heating systems can help meet their energy needs. During the site assessment a certified solar energy site assessor will visit your location and/or review building plans. The site assessor will evaluate your location, answer your questions and summarize their findings in a written report that will include:

- A review of your goals for having a solar hot water system
- A review of how solar water heating systems work
- A basic analysis of your energy needs
- An evaluation of the solar resource at your site
- Recommendations for a solar hot water system size and siting to meet your energy goals
- Estimate of a solar hot water system’s production
- A rough cost estimate for the system
- An overview of the incentives (Focus on Energy, federal, utility) for which the system is eligible
- Preliminary economic analysis of the system
- The next steps you need to take to make your system a reality

A site assessment is not a bid nor does it provide a system design.

How much does a site assessment cost?

Site assessment fees vary, and are determined by each individual site assessor. Average assessment costs are outlined in the following chart.

System Type	Typical cost	Focus Cost Share
Residential	\$300 to \$400	50%
Non-residential	\$400 to \$600	50%

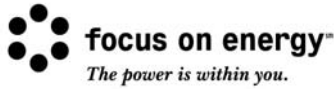
Please discuss costs and system expectations with your solar consultant prior to the site visit.

Solar Hot Water System Information

Before you request a site assessment you should know the following information about renewable energy systems in Wisconsin.

Energy Efficiency

Where energy savings for a building or facility is involved, every dollar you spend on energy efficiency will save up to three dollars on the cost of your renewable energy system. This is because the more efficient your building or facility is, the smaller the renewable energy system can be to meet your energy needs.



Solar Hot Water System Overview

Solar hot water systems use the sun's energy to heat water for home and business needs. These systems need full sun to operate.

Residential systems are sized to reduce a home's water heating bill by approximately 50 percent by preheating the water that enters your existing natural gas or electric water heater. Costs vary greatly for a typical two-panel residential system, so we recommend you solicit at least three bids for your project. Focus on Energy Cash-Back Rewards may pay up to 25 percent of the cost of a solar domestic hot water system. A two-panel system requires roughly 100 square feet of area.

Non-residential systems are sized to contribute to the annual water heating load and often provide 50 percent of that load. Large systems often cost less per square foot of collector than residential systems. Focus on Energy Cash-Back Rewards and Implementation Grants may pay up to 25 percent of the cost of a non-residential system, or up to 50 percent of the cost of repairing an existing system. Incentives for nonprofit or local government projects may be approved for up to 35 percent.

How to apply for the Focus on Energy Solar Hot Water Site Assessment cost share:

- 1) To qualify for the discount you must currently have a natural gas or electric water heater. In addition, if you have a natural gas water heater, you must purchase natural gas from a participating provider, and if you have an electric water heater you must purchase your electricity from a participating electricity provider. To view a listing of the participating utilities, visit focusonenergy.com/utilities or call 800.762.7077.
- 2) Complete the Renewable Energy Site Assessment Coupon Request form, and return it to the indicated address.
- 3) Participate in an initial telephone screening with a Focus on Energy representative to discuss your site assessment needs and to make sure you qualify for the discount.
- 4) If you qualify, a discount coupon and list of site assessors will be mailed or emailed to you.
- 5) Select a site assessor from the list and arrange your site assessment. Provide the site assessor with the discount coupon at the time of the site assessment.

***For more information or to fill out the coupon request form online, please visit:
focusonenergy.com/siteassessments.***

Note: If the site is not located in an eligible utility service territory, the site assessment is available at full cost. Contact Midwest Renewable Energy Association for more information. www.the-mrea.org