



**SolarSME**  
Subject Matter Expert

# Maryland Solar: Your Ultimate Guide to Solar Energy & Savings

Maryland is increasingly becoming a hub for solar energy due to its strategic commitment to renewable energy and favorable incentives for residents and businesses. The state's robust support for clean energy has led to significant growth in solar adoption, providing economic benefits and reducing carbon footprints. By going solar in Maryland, you can take advantage of numerous incentives and financial programs that lower the cost of installation, reduce energy bills, and contribute to a sustainable future.

This eBook will provide an in-depth look at the impact of going solar in Maryland, explore the best incentives available for both homeowners and businesses, and offer real-time examples of Maryland residents and businesses benefiting from these programs.

# Chapter 1

## The Impact of Going Solar in Maryland

Going solar in Maryland offers a wide range of benefits. Here are some key impacts:

### 1. Lower Energy Costs:

Homeowners and businesses that invest in solar panels see immediate reductions in their electricity bills.

**For example, a family in Baltimore with a typical 5-kilowatt (kW) system can save around \$1,200 per year on their energy bills. Over 20 years, this adds up to over \$24,000 in savings.**

### 2. Environmental Benefits

By switching to solar, Maryland residents contribute to the state's renewable energy goals. Solar energy reduces reliance on fossil fuels, thereby cutting down greenhouse gas emissions.

**For instance, a business that installs a 100-kW solar system can offset approximately 85,000 pounds of carbon dioxide annually, equivalent to planting over 1,000 trees.**

### 3. Increased Property Value

Solar installations can increase property values in Maryland. Homes with solar panels sell faster and at a premium cost compared to non-solar homes. A home in **Anne Arundel County**, for example, saw its value increase by \$10,000 due to a 6-kW solar panel installation.



## Chapter 2

### Best Maryland Solar Incentives for Homeowners

Maryland offers a range of incentives that make going solar financially attractive for homeowners. These incentives reduce upfront costs and offer ongoing financial benefits.

#### 1. Maryland Residential Clean Energy Rebate Program

The Maryland Residential Clean Energy Rebate Program provides financial assistance to homeowners who install solar energy systems. The rebate amount depends on the system's size, typically ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

**A homeowner in Frederick County received a \$2,000 rebate for a 4-kW solar installation, reducing the overall cost by 20%.**



#### 2. Maryland Renewable Energy System Property Tax Exemption

Under this program, solar energy systems are exempt from property tax assessments, meaning homeowners do not pay additional property taxes for installing solar panels. This exemption saves homeowners hundreds of dollars annually, making solar more affordable.

## Chapter 3

### Local Residential Solar Incentives in Maryland

Several counties in Maryland offer additional incentives to encourage solar adoption:

#### 1. Anne Arundel County Solar Tax Credits

Homeowners in Anne Arundel County are eligible for a property tax credit of up to \$2,500 if they use solar energy systems for water heating, electricity generation, or heating and cooling.

**For example, a homeowner who installs a solar water heater and a 3-kW solar panel system receives a \$2,500 property tax credit, making the initial cost significantly lower.**



#### 2. Baltimore County Solar Tax Credits

In Baltimore County, residents can receive a property tax credit of up to \$5,000 for installing solar energy systems, including solar panels, water heaters, and HVAC units.

**A homeowner installing a 5-kW solar panel system and a solar-powered HVAC unit received the maximum \$5,000 tax credit, covering 25% of their installation costs.**

#### 3. Prince George's County Solar Tax Credits

Prince George's County offers alternative energy tax credits up to \$5,000 for homeowners installing solar energy equipment.

**For example, a family that installs a 7-kW solar panel system benefits from the full \$5,000 credit, reducing their net investment by nearly 30%.**





## Chapter 4 ●

### Commercial Solar Incentives in Maryland

Maryland provides exclusive incentives to support local businesses transitioning to clean energy. These programs help reduce initial costs and encourage sustainable practices.

#### 1. The Commercial Clean Energy Rebate Program

The Commercial Clean Energy Rebate Program is a statewide initiative offering rebates to businesses, non-profits, and government buildings that install solar energy systems. With a total of \$1,000,000 available through the Strategic Energy Investment Fund, businesses can receive rebates on a first-come, first-served basis. The rebate amount varies depending on the system size.

**For example, a small business in Montgomery County installing a 25-kW solar system received a \$5,000 rebate**

#### 2. High-Performance Building Property Tax Credits

These credits are available in several Maryland counties for newly built or completely renovated commercial and multi-family properties that meet high-energy performance standards.

**A commercial building in Howard County received a 50% reduction in property taxes for achieving the High Energy Performance certification, leading to thousands in savings over five years.**

#### 3. Maryland Solar Property & Use Tax Exemption

Solar energy systems used for water heating or cooling a building are exempt from real property taxes at both local and state levels. Both residential and commercial properties qualify for this exemption.

**For instance, a manufacturing plant in Baltimore that installed a 200-kW solar system saved approximately \$7,000 annually in property taxes.**



# Chapter 5

## Understanding Maryland's SREC Program

The Solar Renewable Energy Certificate (SREC) program is another way to monetize your solar investment in Maryland. Here's how it works:

- Every time your solar panels generate 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh), you earn one SREC.
- These SRECs can be sold to power companies, providing additional revenue for solar system owners.

For example, an average 5-kW solar system produces about 6 SRECs annually, translating to \$300 in extra income in the first year. Over five years, this equals \$1,500—money that can further offset installation and maintenance costs.



### Market Price of SRECs in Maryland



## Chapter 6

### Real-Time Examples of Solar Success in Maryland

#### Residential Solar Success:

##### The Smith Family in Annapolis

The Smith family decided to install a 6-kW solar panel system on their Annapolis home in 2021. By leveraging the Maryland Residential Clean Energy Rebate Program, they received a \$3,000 rebate. They also qualified for the Anne Arundel County Solar Tax Credit of \$2,500, effectively reducing their installation costs by 35%. In the first year, they saved \$1,200 on energy bills and earned \$300 from SRECs, with a payback period of just six years.



#### Commercial Solar Success:

##### Green Business Solutions in Baltimore

Green Business Solutions, a mid-sized company in Baltimore, installed a 100-kW solar system in 2022. The company benefited from the Commercial Clean Energy Rebate Program, receiving a \$10,000 rebate. Additionally, they qualified for the Maryland Solar Property Tax Exemption, saving \$5,000 annually. The company also sold 120 SRECs over two years, generating an additional \$6,000. With a total saving of \$21,000 in two years, the company's decision to go solar has been both environmentally and financially rewarding.



# CONCLUSION

## Is Going Solar in Maryland Worth It?

Given Maryland's favorable solar incentives, strong state support, and environmental benefits, going solar is a smart decision for both homeowners and businesses. The upfront costs are significantly reduced by generous rebates, tax credits, and exemptions, while ongoing savings on energy bills and potential earnings from SRECs make the investment worthwhile.

## Start Your Solar Journey Today

With so many compelling reasons to go [solar in Maryland](#), there has never been a better time to make the switch. [Contact SolarSME](#) for a free consultation to learn more about how you can benefit from these incentives and begin your journey toward a greener, more sustainable future.