

## Austin's Clean Energy Programs

The City of Austin began its financial incentive programs for energy efficiency in 1982. Combined with energy-efficiency codes for new buildings, green building ratings, and progressive electric rates, Austin Energy now has the lowest average Residential consumption of any major utility in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas region. It also has one of the lowest average electric bills.

Since 2002, Austin has offered sale of 100% clean energy as a customer option. And since 2004, the City has offered incentives to install home solar power.

To assist readers, the *Environmental Directory* has listed programs Austin Energy customers can use to lower bills or purchase clean energy. For more information, call (512) 482-5346 or visit [savings.austinenenergy.com](http://savings.austinenenergy.com).

**Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®:** Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® grants incentives or low-interest loans to homeowners and owners of one to four unit dwellings, including town homes and condominiums, that are at least 10 years old. (Manufactured homes are not eligible.) Efficiency measures include upgrading air conditioners, sealing air ducts, insulating attics, installing screens or window film that block summer heat, and weatherizing indoor space with caulking and weatherstripping. Rebates can average \$1,800 per home. It is common to see a 20% savings on heating and cooling cost in many retrofits.

**Appliance Efficiency Program:** Rebates also assist the purchase of high-efficiency central, mini-split, or window unit air conditioners. In all-electric homes, heat pumps may also qualify for a rebate. Incentives at the time of publishing


ranged from \$100-\$600 depending on size and efficiency for central units, and \$50 for window units. Mini-splits under 1.5 tons will receive half the rebate amount for central units.


**Power Partner:** Power Partner<sup>SM</sup> is a voluntary program for residential and commercial customers who use smart thermostats to manage energy use. Austin Energy offers a \$25 rebate for purchase of each qualifying thermostat enrolled in the Power Partner Thermostat program. The utility also offers an \$85 incentive for enrolling in the Power Partner Thermostat Energy Recycling Program. In exchange, customers agree to let Austin Energy briefly raise the temperature setting on thermostats when the demand for electricity is highest, like very hot summer afternoons, to prevent power outages and avoid peak power costs.

**Instant Rebates:** Austin Energy works with several Austin-area retailers to provide instant in-store savings on energy-efficient products. As of the time of publication, these included: efficient window air conditioners, water coolers, bath vent fans, and air purifiers, advanced power strips, and LED recessed-can retrofit kits. Also included are Do-It-Yourself products such as door seal sweeps and heat control window film. Customers should look for "Instant Savings" and/or the Austin Energy logo on the store shelf labels.

**Solar Rebates:** As of the end of September 2019, more than 9,500 homes and commercial buildings had received

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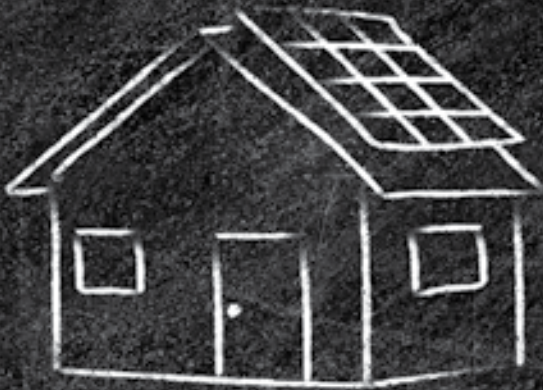
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Austin Energy rebates for solar, amounting to almost 1% of Austin's total consumption. At the time of publishing, the utility's solar incentive program offered Residential rebates of \$2,500 for decentralized photovoltaic systems 3 kW (DC) and higher. (Most systems range from 4 to 8 KW.)

Customers with solar cells also receive a special "Value of Solar" credit, the rate at which Austin Energy credits solar customers for the energy produced by their on-site system.

**GreenChoice Wind Power:** GreenChoice® allows any Residential and Commercial customers to choose 100% renewable Texas wind energy. The increased Residential cost is only 3/4 of a cent per kilowatt hour more than normal, and this extra money allows Austin Energy to place more renewable energy on its system.

## CLEAN ENERGY CONTRACTORS

To assist ratepayers, the *Environmental Directory* has created a list of the main conservation and solar energy contractors in the Austin area in 2018.

RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CONTRACTORS		
Company	Phone	Web Site
ABC Services	(512) 379-7964	abchomeandcommercial.com
American Conservation	(512) 335-2222	americanconservation.com
Airco Mechanical Ltd.	(512) 501-2074	aircomechanical.com
Austin Star Services	(512) 203-0765	austinstarservices.com
Castillo Service	(512) 441-6118	castilloservicefourac@gmail
Conservation Services	(512) 282-8811	NA
Energy Guys	(512) 222-3144	goenergyguys.com
Faught Service	(512) 869-5015	faughtservice.com
Fox Service Company	(512) 869-5015	foxservice.com
Green Collar Operations	(512) 817-1058	greencollaroperations.com
Go Green Htg./Cooling	(512) 645-1121	gogreenaustin.com
McCullough Htg. & AC	(512) 862-2937	coolmenow.com
Precision Heating & Air	(512) 300-7422	precisionheatac.com
Quality Living Services	(512) 928-4580	qualitylivingservices.com
Service Experts AC	(512) 592-3072	strandbrothers.com
Service Wizard	(512) 873-7333	servicewizardac.com
Smart Air Service Co.	(512) 600-4311	smartairaustin.com
Stan's Heating & AC	(512) 929-9393	stansac.com
Totally Cool	(512) 831-5952	totallycoolac.com
RESIDENTIAL SOLAR INSTALLERS		
Company	Phone	Web Site
512 SOLAR	(512) 329-2117	512solar.com
Alba Energy	(800) 238-3112	albaenergy.com
CAM Solar	(210) 899-0263	gocamsolar.com
Freedom Solar	(877) 423-4587	freedomssolarpower.com
Greenbelt Solar	(512) 750-1478	greenbeltsolar.com
IES Residential, INC	(281) 498-2212	iesresidential.com/
ION Developer, LLC	(888) 781-7174	ionsolar.com
Lighthouse Solar Austin	(512) 476-5555	lighthousesolar.com
Longhorn Solar	(512) 837-4800	longhornsolar.com
Native	(855) 253-6284	buildnative.com
Momentum Solar	(888) 666-3688	momentumsolar.com
Self Reliant Solar	(512) 914-1706	selfreliantsolar.com
Tesla EnergyOperations	(888) 765-2489	tesla.com/solarpanels
Wells Solar & Elec.	(512) 382-7956	wellssolar.com



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