

SOLAR SPACE HEATING

Fact Sheet

Save with Solar Space Heating

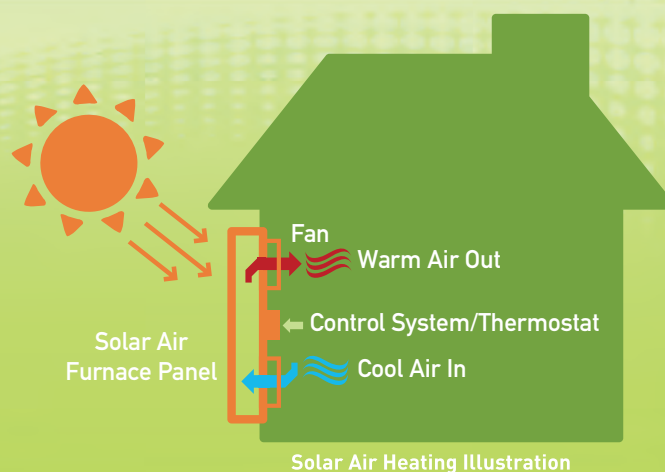
Northern Nevada customers spend hundreds of dollars annually in heating costs. By using a solar space heating system, you can take advantage of the sun's abundant energy to heat your home. Solar space heating systems work alongside your current heating system, using the sun's energy to reduce energy consumption. Reducing your energy usage will result in lower heating bills, giving you real dollar savings throughout the entire winter.

NV Energy Incentives

NV Energy offers incentives to natural gas customers who install qualifying solar space heating systems. Residential, small business, schools and public building customers are eligible to apply. Visit nvenergy.com/solarheating to learn about current incentive amounts. Incentives are issued on a first come, first served basis. Get yours before they are gone.

How Do Solar Space Heating Systems Work?

Solar heating systems use energy from the sun to heat a fluid -- either liquid or air -- and then transfer the solar heat directly to the interior space or to a storage system for later use. Active solar space-heating systems consist of collectors that collect solar energy combined with electric fans or pumps to distribute the heat. If the solar system cannot provide adequate space heating, an auxiliary or back-up system provides the additional heat. Both liquid and air systems can supplement forced air systems.



Solar Air Heating Illustration

Benefits

- ☀ Like other renewable energy systems, solar space heating systems minimize the environmental effects of enjoying a comfortable, modern lifestyle.
- ☀ The supplementation of natural gas with free sunlight can significantly lower your heating bills over long winters.
- ☀ The long term savings gained by installing a solar heating system can easily offset your initial investment, and eventually surpass it.
- ☀ Solar heating systems require little upkeep and maintenance. Generally, maintenance involves keeping the solar panels clean and unobstructed.
- ☀ Solar heating technology is well-proven for both residential and commercial applications. Systems are highly durable, with warranties of 10 years and expected operating lives of over 20 years.

Energy Efficiency First

Before you consider installing a renewable energy system you should first consider increasing the energy efficiency of your property. By undertaking low cost improvements, such as installing a programmable thermostat, properly maintaining your HVAC system and sealing your heating and cooling ducts you can significantly lower your winter heating bills.

Visit nvenergy.com/saveenergy to learn more about NV Energy energy efficiency programs, advice and tips that will help you stay comfortable in your home or business while reducing your energy costs.

Things to Consider

While a solar space heating system is an additional installation cost and will not likely replace your heater or boiler, it will more than pay for itself over the long run through energy savings. Understanding how much a system may cost, what equipment is needed, where it will go, what permits will be necessary, and how the system may perform are a few of the important questions you need to research prior to investing in a system. NV Energy recommends that you consult at least three eligible contractors and obtain written bids from each to ensure you purchase an appropriate system designed to meet your personal needs.

ELIGIBLE CONTRACTORS

All projects eligible to receive an incentive are required to be installed by an eligible contractor. Eligible contractors meet the license, warranty, and training requirements as stated in the program handbook. A complete list of eligible contractors can be found at nvenergy.com/solarheating

TIPS FOR CHOOSING A CONTRACTOR

- Consult with several contractors and get written quotes, just as you would when making any major home repairs or improvements.
- Verify that the contractor's license is current and active at www.nvcontractorsboard.com.
- Ensure all quotes are in writing and only sign after fully understanding the terms and costs are within reason.
- Never provide more than 10 percent of the system's cost for an up-front deposit and do not make final payment until the system is installed and operating properly.
- Ask the contractor questions about their business, the system, or anything you don't understand.
- Request references from previous customers and review past installations to ensure the costs were reasonable, the customers were satisfied and the systems are performing properly.

