

M

assachusetts Financial Incentives for Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency: An overview of resources for Residential Property Owners (summarized January 2011)

(Separate handouts for commercial and municipal property owners available at www.pvpc.org)

- **MassSAVE, free home energy efficiency audits and no-interest financing**
To help residential consumers increase the energy efficiency of their homes, available to all residential customers who own and reside in a one to four family residence, buy their power from one of MassSAVE's member companies, and obtain a Home Energy Assessment through the MassSAVE Program.
- **MA DOER solar renewable energy credits (SREC)**
Add-on to the sale price of solar energy, making solar energy more valuable than energy generated by Fossil Fuels.
- **Personal tax credit**
15% credit -- up to \$1,000 -- against the state income tax for the net expenditure of a renewable-energy system (including installation costs) installed on an individual's primary residence, excess credit amount may be carried forward to the next succeeding year for up to three years. Eligible technologies include solar hot water and space heating, photovoltaics (PV), and wind-energy systems.
- **Renewable energy property tax exemption**
Solar-energy systems and wind-energy systems used as a primary or auxiliary power system for the purpose of heating or otherwise supplying the energy needs of **taxable property** are exempt from local property tax for a 20-year period.
- **Renewable energy equipment sales tax exemption**
Pay no state sales tax on home clean energy systems.
- **Massachusetts major renovations program**
Home owners renovating, remodeling, or otherwise making home improvements can receive up to \$2,000 and free screw-in compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) for certain fixtures by working with a Home Energy Rating System (HERS) rater and making improvements according to a set of criteria that are all aimed at improving the efficiency of the home and renovation
- **Massachusetts new homes with energy star program**
Home builders constructing new homes in territories of sponsoring utilities and energy efficiency service providers* can receive up to \$8,000 in incentives for building the home to the most stringent ENERGY STAR standards.
- **Mass CEC Commonwealth solar II rebates**
Provides rebates for the installation of grid-tied photovoltaic (PV) systems at residential, commercial, industrial, institutional and public facilities.

Note: federal, state and utility incentive programs change over time. Information in this handout may have changed—but this material gives users a sense of the range of assistance available in Massachusetts. For up to the minute information, go to www.dsire.org and click on Massachusetts
This handout was developed by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (www.pvpc.org) with funding assistance from the Western Massachusetts Electric Company (www.wmeco.com)

- **MassCEC Commonwealth wind incentive program**
Rebates with a maximum of \$130,000 for design and construction of customer-sited small wind public projects and rebates of up to \$100,000 for non-public projects.
- **Net metering**
If a homeowner has a clean energy system that generates more power than they can use, they sell the power back to the grid at slightly less than the utility's full retail rate.

Note: federal, state and utility incentive programs change over time. Information in this handout may have changed—but this material gives users a sense of the range of assistance available in Massachusetts. For up to the minute information, go to www.dsire.org and click on Massachusetts. This handout was developed by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (www.pvpc.org) with funding assistance from the Western Massachusetts Electric Company (www.wmeco.com)