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Solar Powered Homes Are Becoming More Popular

By Dave Moore

In this day and age of ever growing efficiency, everyday folks are looking to capitalize on today's current technology to save money in all areas of their budget. And since energy prices are getting steeper, and concerns of man-made pollution are on the rise, the choice to retrofit an existing home into a solar powered home is becoming more enticing to the average consumer.

Solar Power use for the everyday homeowner used to be limited to just heating the backyard swimming pool. But these days solar power technology has grown by leaps and bounds. You can now have your entire home be powered by solar energy, including (but not limited to) garden and walkway lights, water heater, interior lighting, attic fans, central air conditioner, and, of course, your swimming pool.

Although the solar powered car is becoming the most popular use for this alternative energy source, the steps to create a solar powered home are not too hard (when using a professional service) and well worth the investment. There are a number of solar power panels and solar power kits available on the market, but if you are interested in solar power to power any part of your house, your best bet is to look up "solar power" in your local phone book.

Dave Moore is the operator of

<http://www.solar-powered-everything.com>

which is a website dedicated

to informing the general public about the uses of Solar Power.

Save on outdoor lighting and think solar lights

By Richard Gazzo

Solar Powered Homes Are Becoming More Popular

If you want to save on your energy bill then solar powered lights are a great alternative. You are probably worried about the ever increasing price of electricity to, this is a cost effective way of illuminating your home's outdoor areas, solar lighting is the answer. How does it work? The first versions of solar lighting, use solar cells that did not produce ample power for a long period of time. As with everything solar lighting has evolved, newer technology uses LED (light emitting diode) lamps that offer much more powerful light than those using solar cells.

Solar lights are not as powerful as electric powered fixtures, they are better used for outdoor decorative lighting. Some places you can use them include walkways, landscape borders, patio and deck areas, as well as gardens. It's important to have a well thought out plan before you begin, you can even do a quick sketch before hand so you have an idea of how to place the lamps.

Solar light fixtures work off of the energy of the sun. These exterior lights actually collect energy from the sun, through solar cell panels. When night falls these lights illuminate by releasing the solar energy, which in return give your exterior areas light. These panels use NiCad or NiMH re-chargeable batteries to store the battery power collected from the sun.

Why are solar powered lights so popular, besides the savings on your electricity? Unlike regular landscape lighting, that needs a professional electrician to do all the work, solar powered lamps can be installed by anyone. It also is fast and takes no time to do. Put the post into the ground and you're done. But remember to place the light fixtures in an area that has a lot of sunlight. A tip on generating the most amount of power possible from your solar lamp is to place them in an area that receives lots of natural sunlight. The more sun that hits the solar panel the more power the lamp will give off at night. And don't worry about the lights turning on in the daylight, these outdoor lights have built-in photo sensors, this feature enables the lamp to automatically shut off in the daylight hours. Typically you can expect about 9 hours of light per night.

Some types of solar outdoor lighting that you can install to illuminate your landscape and garden areas include, solar spotlights, patio lights, and path lights for walkways. If you are looking for a powerful light source for your home's outdoor areas, then choose an electric powered fixture. If you want accent lighting in your garden or landscape that offers a soft glow, then this maybe what you are looking for.

Richard Gazzo is an author, providing info on all types of lamps, outdoor lighting, table lamps, chandeliers, floor lamps, lamp shades and more. leave all hyper links intact. ©

<http://www.lighting-tips.com>



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