

# Going Solar?

**Now is a great time to get a Heat Pump Water Heater!**

Most homeowners who have a solar electric system installed have two goals: reducing their utility bills and powering their home with a cleaner, greener source of energy.

If you're thinking about going solar, now is also the time to look at the benefits of a heat pump water heater.

## Why switch from gas to heat pump water heaters?

In California, most residential water heaters are fueled by natural gas. But that's changing. As more homes get their electricity from solar panels, more people are looking to switch their appliances and systems from gas to electric.

## Save money, go green

An electric heat pump water heater is a clean and highly efficient way to produce hot water. Switching from gas to a heat pump water heater can:

- Save you energy and money
- Cut your natural gas use as much as 50%
- Reduce air pollution
- Reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change

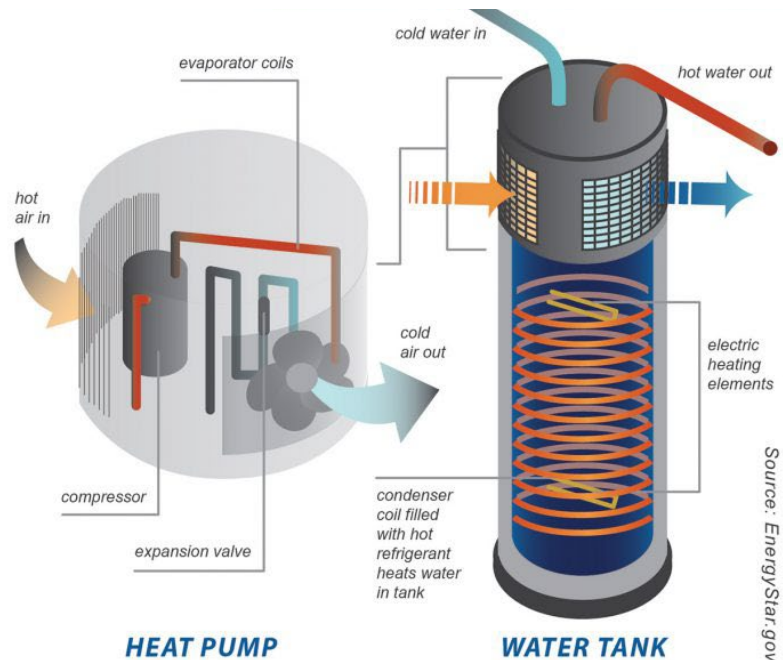
If you're thinking about installing a heat pump water heater now or in the future, talk to your solar installer. It might be easier and more economical to install a somewhat larger solar system now rather than try to expand it later to accommodate the electricity use of a heat pump water heater. Typical annual electricity usage for a HPWH is 1000 kWh.



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## What is a heat pump water heater?

It looks a lot like a conventional gas water heater—it's a big cylindrical tank with one pipe that brings cold water in and another pipe that sends hot water out. The heat pump is built into the top of the unit. A heat pump works like a refrigerator but in reverse. A refrigerator uses electricity, refrigerant and a compressor to move heat from inside the refrigerator to the outside air. A heat pump water heater takes heat from the surrounding air and transfers it to the water in the tank.



## Frequently asked questions:

### What do heat pump water heaters cost?

They cost more than gas or conventional electric water heaters, but the energy savings can make up for the initial cost difference. Installation costs may include an upgrade to the electrical service panel. Planning for the PV and HPWH installations at the same time helps bring down the overall cost of the electrical work.

### Is installation difficult?

No, but not all contractors have HPWH experience. Your customer should use one who does, and one who is enrolled in the rebate programs listed below.

### Are there rebates for heat pump water heaters?

Yes! Rebates are currently available to homeowners all across the region. See this list for more information: [www.bayren.org/incentives](http://www.bayren.org/incentives)



For rebates and additional details on heat pump water heaters, visit: [www.bayren.org/water-heaters](http://www.bayren.org/water-heaters)