



# Is Solar Right for You?

## How to determine what Solar is right for you

Many folks out there are looking to add solar to their home for any number of reasons. Therefore, Tri-County Electric Cooperative would like to present a tool to our members to help determine the economic impact from a solar installation.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory established a user-friendly website to help electric consumers determine return on investment when installing solar. The NREL created an average irradiance map that estimates the output from a solar panel.

### Step 1

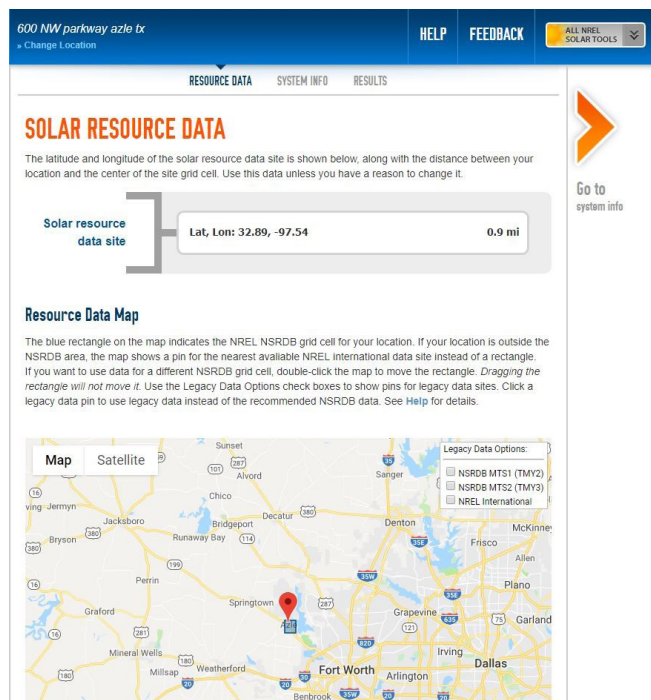
- Visit [pwwatts.nrel.gov](http://pwwatts.nrel.gov)
- Enter your address
- Click "GO"



### Step 2

- Review your location
- Click the orange arrow if the location, the red pin, is correct

Note: The location is approximate and establishes the average irradiance for the area.



# Step 3

Solar systems are sold based on kW. If you have a quote for a particular size system, you can put the value in the first field. For this example, we will use a 4kW system. We recommend using the default values on the remaining fields.

Once you are happy, click the orange arrow to see the output

Notes:

- The “Tilt” and “Azimuth” are ideal, which is difficult to attain on a roof top system.
- The default rate is high compared to Tri-County Electric Cooperative rates, but since it is a long-term system, we believe it probably averages out over time.
- You may want to revisit this page to adjust the system size to more closely match your desired outcome.

# Step 4

You can take this data and compare to your electric bills to see how the solar system will affect your electric bill.

You can also evaluate the economic benefits of the solar by comparing it's cost to the reduction in your bill.

Month	Solar Radiation ( kWh / m <sup>2</sup> / day )	AC Energy ( kWh )	Value ( \$ )
January	4.07	405	44
February	4.69	417	46
March	5.39	522	57
April	5.97	543	60
May	6.22	575	63
June	6.66	570	63
July	6.97	608	67
August	6.82	604	66
September	6.15	536	59
October	5.28	488	54
November	4.57	436	48
December	3.97	395	43
<b>Annual</b>	<b>5.56</b>	<b>6,099</b>	<b>\$ 670</b>

Questions? Email [distributedgeneration@tcectexas.com](mailto:distributedgeneration@tcectexas.com) or call 817.752.8119