

Case Study: Solar Installation

An Edgerton resident recently completed a solar installation on his home in which 49% of the costs were covered by grants. The home owner hired a solar company to install an 8 kW system on his home which will produce an estimated 11,416 kWh annually to meet 97% of his electrical demand. In less than 10 years of operation, he expects to have saved on his power bill an amount equal to the investment he made in the solar installation.

This property owner was able to layer several funding sources to make the project very affordable. In addition to the Federal Tax Credit program and Focus on Energy rebates, eligible Edgerton home owners can also obtain **Revive Edgerton** loan and grant funding for energy efficiency upgrades, which include the installation of solar.

Here is how the project financing worked out:

Total cost of solar project	\$25,063
Federal Tax Credit (estimated)	(\$7,759)
Focus On Energy grant	(\$1,000)
Home owner's employer	(\$1,000)
Revive Edgerton Grant	(\$2,500)
Total cost after grants/ rebates	\$12,804

Additionally, the Revive Edgerton Program offers low interest loans for eligible work. This home owner was able to obtain a \$7,932 Revive Edgerton loan which has an interest rate of 2% to pay for 50% of the out of packet cost he had for the system.

When asked about his experience, the home owner indicated, "I own a 134-year-old home here in Edgerton and decided on solar instead of replacing the older windows, solar was half the cost; 25k vs 49k.

Revive Edgerton Program = Funds for Homeowners Who can apply for loans or grants?

Edgerton's Home Revival Program aims to improve and update "affordable" homes in Edgerton by providing grants and low interest loans for eligible improvements. Affordable is defined as having an assessed value less than \$252,833 (this number will be increased in the next few months). Owners of owner-

occupied homes and condominiums are eligible to apply.

How much funding is available for my project?

Eligible homeowners can obtain up to a \$2,500 grant to cover 25% of the cost of a project up to \$10,000. If the project costs exceed, \$10,000, the owner can also apply for a low interest loan (2%) for 50% of the project costs.



What work is eligible?

Here is a partial list of eligible projects. Renewable energy installations; new mechanical systems (not replacements); new construction; complete remodel of interior space; energy efficiency upgrades; environmental remediation (removal of asbestos or lead-based paint); new detached freestanding garages (if no garage exists).

Please contact City Hall to take advantage of this great program!

I had no prior knowledge of solar other than what I gathered online, where I came across EnergySage.com. Here I found a great baseline on the principles, general costs, tax incentives, and most importantly free access to their resource of insured and trusted local installers, who they pre-screen and monitor, as well as homeowner reviews of their installation experience. Through this program, you will receive 3-5 ballpark quotes, schedule site visits, and then get a comprehensive quote with output, equipment, and timeline. Your quotes will be based on your electric energy consumption for the year.

Take some time to read reviews on each installer's equipment: panels, string inverters (common – mini-inverters that string the panels together), and the central inverter. Most of the equipment is similarly priced, however, my installer saved me \$1,200 by going with commercial panels over residential. Commercial panels have the same output, the only difference being a silver aluminum frame vs a solid black panel. I also went with European sourced inverters. Inverters can fail; replacements from some regions were sometimes delayed up to 6-8months vs European made being readily instock in the US – confirm all warranty work is covered by your installer. Additional costs for me included an engineer survey of the roof structure \$800, and then reinforcement of part of the roof for \$1,500. All of which was organized, warranted, and insured by my installer."

Please note the city of Edgerton does not endorse any specific installers but the following link provides a list of certified installer in our area <u>https://directories.nabcep.org/.</u> If you are considering a solar installation or other energy efficiency project, keep an eye on the city's website for more information.

2024 SPRING ELECTION

Polls will be open at City Hall on April 2, 2024 from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. If you have questions or need assistance with any of your voting options, please contact the friendly staff at Edgerton City Hall (608) 884-3341 or go to the Wisconsin Voter Information Center at www.elections.wi.gov/voters.

Local Candidates

First District Matt McIntyre Michelle Crisanti Second District Tim Shaw Third District Jim Burdick <u>Municipal Judge</u> Jeff Roethe <u>School Board</u> Steven Doll Kelly Kwiatkowski Jenna Gresens

2024 Construction Update

The street and utilities on Albion St from W Fulton St to W Rollin St will be reconstructed.
The remaining lead laterals (approximately 80) will be removed this year, funded in part by WDNR grant.

• Four city buildings will have solar arrays installed, funded by Federal ARPA funds.

A reforestation project will take place at Fish Pond Park, funded in part by a WDNR grant.
40 trees will be planted at Racetrack Park, funded in part by an Alliant Energy/Trees Forever grant.

Swimming Pool and Lawns

What do these two things have in common? They both use water that does not end up at the wastewater treatment plant. If you have a swimming pool that is more than 1,000 gallons, you can request a meter reading before and after you fill your pool in order to avoid sewer charges on the water that went into the pool. To obtain the credit, residents must follow specific rules, so **please call City Hall before you start filling**.

Credits will <u>not</u> be given for water used on landscaping or lawns. If you plan to use a lot of water on your lawn, you can purchase a special irrigation meter from the City. An irrigation meter measures the amount of water used to water your landscaping. With an irrigation meter, you do not have to pay sewer charges on that water, since it does not go to the wastewater treatment plant.

E-Waste

The dates for this year's two e-waste collection events are April 20th and September 21st at the Public Works Garage 315 W High Street. Watch the City's website for details of the events.

Large item pick-up is the 4th full week of every month on your regularly scheduled pick up day. You are not required to call to request a pick up. If you have a large item that requires two people to collect, like a refrigerator, Badgerland would appreciate a call. (608) 580-0580.

Celebrate Arbor Day Friday, April 26, 2024

Look for event details on Facebook and at www.cityofedgerton.com

PARK SHELTER RESERVATIONS

CITY SERVICE NOTES

Please call City Hall or visit the City's website for reservations and pricing information for the enclosed shelter at Racetrack Park.

TO THE CITY OF EDGERTON BARTENDERS

Your operator's license will expire on June 30, 2024. A renewal application must be submitted to the City of Edgerton no later than May 10th, 2024 to allow time for background checks to be completed. The applications will be approved at the June 3, 2024 Finance Committee meeting. Applications can be picked up at City Hall or online at www.cityofedgerton.com.

CEMETERY & COMPOST

Fassett Cemetery: Flowers and decorations on the graves need to be removed by April 15th to get ready for spring cleanup. Flowers may be replaced no sooner than the Friday before Mother's Day.

Compost: Looking for a place to dispose of leaves, grass clippings, twigs and garden debris? There is a compost pile located at Fassett Cemetery. These items <u>will not</u> be collected at the curb. Check the City's website for compost site hours.

GRASS & WEEDS

Grass and weeds must be maintained at six inches or less in the City. If grass and weeds are not maintained according to the City Ordinance, the Department of Public Works will mow and there will be a charge to the property owners. All trees, bushes, or vegetation should be trimmed over streets and sidewalks.

AQUATIC CENTER

The Edgerton Pool will open for the 2024 season on June 2nd at 12:00pm. Pre-season pass sales will



be May 20th – June 1st at the pool. Time of sales will vary! Please check the pool windows or our website for sale times.

Forms are available on the City's website www.cityofedgerton.com. Just fill in the form and return to Edgerton City Hall at 12 Albion St with your payment.

BUILDING PERMITS

It is that time of year again. We are all thinking about the remodeling jobs that need to be done around our homes. As you are planning these jobs, keep in mind some projects such as new decks, siding, fences, and sheds may require a permit. Please contact the City Hall at 884-3341 to see if your project requires a building permit.

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Rock County Clean Sweep

How: Go to <u>www.co.rock.wi.us</u>/landconservation-clean-sweep or call 754-6617 ext 4758. <u>RSVP REQUIRED</u>!

What: Bring most waste products that are not collected during weekly collection. (Quantities are limited. Check website for specific items being collected.)

When/Where: June 22 and August 24 Locations to be determined.

COMMUNITY GARDEN INFO

Garden plots on Lyons Street can be rented on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$10/ plot. Water is available at the garden site. Applications or reservations are available at City Hall or at www.cityofedgerton.com.