

PRESS RELEASE



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Park City Waives Building and Inspection Fees for Renewable Energy *Goal is to encourage new residential and commercial projects*

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Harnessing renewable energy in Park City will be a little easier on the pocketbook in 2011. The City Council recently agreed to waive up to \$1,000 in building and inspection fees for solar photovoltaic (PV), solar thermal, and wind energy projects completed in 2011. The fee waiver is available for residential and commercial projects. Building and inspection fees for small-scale renewable energy projects typically range from a few hundred dollars to over \$1,000 and are based on system size and value. For larger projects, the first \$1,000 in fees would also be eligible for the fee waiver.

This new program is part of the City's broader environmental sustainability goals which includes increasing and promoting clean energy. Tyler Poulson, the City's Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, hopes that the fee waiver will "*spur new renewable energy projects, reduce community carbon emissions, and bolster the local green economy.*"

Park City Municipal has taken an increasingly visible leadership role in supporting renewable energy in the past few years. The City has completed [four municipal clean energy projects](#), including an 80-panel solar array on City Hall and the innovative Snow Creek Cottages in the last year. The City also partnered with Utah State University and the Energy Dynamics Lab in Logan, UT to complete a [community clean energy feasibility study](#) in 2010. The City is currently assessing the solar generation potential of other City-owned rooftops through a grant funded by the Department of Energy.

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The move to develop more renewable energy in Park City comes at a time when prices for finite fossil fuels are forecasted to increase significantly over the next decade. Additionally, technologies such as solar energy have matured rapidly in recent years resulting in improved efficiencies and lower costs. When accounting for current rebates and incentives, solar photovoltaic installations can now often pay for themselves within the standard warranty life of a system.

Poulson cautions that all local land use and building regulations remain in effect for renewable energy projects, and that building permits are required. Interested applicants should contact the Planning and Building Departments for more information and specific requirements before proceeding at 435-615-5001. For more information on renewable energy and the City's green initiatives, contact Tyler Poulson, Park City Environmental Coordinator at 435-615-5204 or visit the [Sustainability section](#) of ParkCity.org.

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