# Solar Hot Water Energy and Cost Savings for Typical Florida Residential Installation 

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## FSEC FS-43-97, February 1997 <br> Carol L. Emrich and David L. Block

The following table presents energy and cost savings for four typical Florida solar water heating systems. Exact savings by a consumer may vary as much as $\pm 25$ from these numbers for numerous reasons. These include hot water use, storage tank type, thermostat settings, solar system size, collector placement and local weather conditions. Computer simulations were used to generate the energy data.

| Hot Water Use and Cost |  |  | Solar Energy and Cost Savings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hot <br> Water Use' | Electrical Resistance ${ }^{2}$ |  | Solar-Asslsted System ${ }^{3}$ |  | IntegralCollectorStorage System4 |  | Conventional Solar Systems |  | Large Solar System ${ }^{6}$ |  |
| Gallons/ day | kWh/yr | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cost } \\ & * \$ / y r \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{k} \mathbf{W} / \mathrm{h}$ / yT | Savings* /\$yr | k $\mathrm{F} / \mathrm{h} /$ $\boldsymbol{y}$ | Savings* /\$yr | kWh/ $\mathrm{y}^{\boldsymbol{r}}$ | Savings* /Syr | kWh/ $y T$ | Savings* /Syr |
| 40 | 2420 | \$218 | 1660 | \$149 | 1740 | \$157 | 2290 | \$206 | 2420 | \$218 |
| 55 | 3210 | \$289 | 1790 | \$161 | 2110 | \$190 | 2760 | \$248 | 3210 | \$289 |
| 70 | 3990 | \$359 | 1900 | \$171 | 2390 | \$215 | 3040 | \$274 | 3980 | \$358 |
| 85 | 4770 | \$429 | 1980 | \$179 | 2590 | \$233 | 3210 | \$289 | 4530 | \$408 |
| 100 | 5340 | \$481 | 2030 | \$183 | 2750 | \$248 | 3340 | \$301 | 4980 | \$448 |
| 115 | 5850 | \$527 | 2090 | \$188 | 2860 | \$258 | 3440 | \$310 | 5320 | \$479 |
| 130 | 6280 | \$565 | 2130 | \$192 | 2950 | \$266 | 3530 | \$318 | 5570 | \$501 |

* All costs and savings are calculated using an electricity rate of $\$ 0.09 / \mathrm{kWh}$.

1. The hot water usage in gallons per day for a typical family is estimated to be 20 gallons per individual for the first two people, and 15 gallons per individual for the remaining people.
2. Generic 40-gallon electric resistance water heater with R-6 insulation.
3. Solar-assisted system consisting of a $24 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ solar collector on an existing tank.
4. $2 \mathrm{ft}^{2}, 40$-gallon integral collector storage system on an existing tank.
5. Conventional solar system with high-quality $40 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ collector on 80 -gallon solar tank.
6. Large solar system of $64 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ collector on 120 -gallon solar tank.
