

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

# Solar Energy Services, Inc.



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<a href="https://solarsaves.net/">https://solarsaves.net/</a>
Solar Installation and Service
Member since July 2010

#### **Management and Leadership**

## **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

The products our company installs and services include solar thermal systems, solar electric systems, and solar pool heating systems. All are designed to drastically reduce residential and commercial use of nonrenewable energy, and harness the power of the sun to replace those needs.

At Solar Energy Services, our main goal is to promote solar thermal systems over the more profitable solar electric systems. Solar thermal is more efficient in offsetting energy usage, which in turn reduces more pollution and saves more energy. A typical solar thermal residential install is the energy/pollution equivalent of taking an average car off the road.

In 2012, SES installed over 70 solar systems, with each averaging over 5 MWH of annual energy savings. This accounts for a combined annual energy savings of over 350 MWH of energy saved from 2012 residential installations alone. In the same year, SES installed over 2 MW of commercial scale solar water heating systems, offsetting enormous amounts of fossil fuel consumption in multi-family housing, restaurants, dining halls, and prison facilities.

## ☑ Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

SES regularly practices local purchasing of products when available, and often buys products in bulk to reduce the amount of packaging and transportation use. Recently, the company purchased a large amount of t-shirts

from a local company, despite the slightly higher price. Solar panels and hot water tanks are purchased in bulk and stored at our facility, reducing the number of shipments we receive. The vast majoring of our tanks and panels are manufactured on the east coast of the U.S., reducing fuel intensive shipping for these very heavy products.

### **☑** Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

Solar Energy Services (SES) supports the local environmental community in many ways including the following:

- Active monthly participation on the Board of Directors of MDV-SEIA, the local solar trade association
- Attendance and participation in the Governors Green Jobs Forum and the Technologies that Can Save the Bay: Reducing Nutrient and Sediment Pollution
- Members of the Governors Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) focused on green jobs
- Presentations at local elementary schools to help educate children on renewable energy
- Installation of solar systems on local schools including universities and elementary schools in Maryland
- Letter writing, legislator meetings and other advocacy on environmental policies
- Participation and support of the League of Conservation Voters of Maryland
- Employees have participated in building a local rain garden
- Regular exhibitor at the local Earth Day event in Severna Park
- Discounted maintenance and installation services to solar systems for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation

#### Waste

## **✓** Recycling

SES actively recycles all packaging, plastic, and metal in the office area. SES also maintains a scrap paper tray for reuse of the blank side in the printer for internal documents. SES repurposes or recycles all paper, plastic, metal, and wood in the production area. Although close records are not kept, bimonthly trips to recycling facilities include on the order of 250 lbs of metal and 300 lbs of

mixed recyclables. SES repurposes gently-used water heaters that are removed in the process of installing new solar water heating systems.

#### **Transportation**

## **✓** Employee Commute

SES encourages installation employees to meet directly at the job site to reduce commuting time and miles travelled. SES also frequently plans production work teams schedules to accommodate shorter commutes (with the side benefit of cross-training), and also periodically allows employees to take service vehicles home when a job site is near the employee's home – thus reducing commuting miles.

#### **Efficient Business Travel**

SES regularly receives service calls from all over the state of Maryland. To increase efficiency, SES groups these service calls by region and travels to one region to complete all jobs in the area at once, eliminating unnecessary travel. Also, carpooling is encouraged whenever available for employees going to meetings in close proximity. For trips to the Washington DC area for meetings etc., SES employees utilize public transportation when possible. SES also regularly uses teleconferencing in place of in person meetings, thereby reducing travel time.

**Profile Updated July 2013** 



