



Rebates – what’s available & where to apply

There are many incentives available to encourage homeowners to live more sustainably.

This fact sheet provides a summary of the rebates currently available in NSW and where to go for further information and application forms. While every effort has been made to keep this fact sheet up to date please keep in mind that rebate programs do change from time to time.

Information is also available on the Sustainable Penrith website at www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au or contact Council’s Sustainability Education Officer on 4732 8050.

Hot Water Systems

The NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change provides rebates of up to \$1200 when you install an energy efficient hot water system in a residential property.

To be eligible you must install a new gas, solar or heat pump hot water system to replace an existing electric system. The program provides a rebate of \$300 for installation of a gas system and up to \$1200 for a solar or heat pump system. The rebate for a solar or heat pump system is determined by the efficiency of your individual system and your supplier / installer should be able to assist you in working out how big your rebate will be.

For more information on the rebates visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates or call 1300 361 967.

The Federal Government also offers a rebate program for the replacement of electric storage hot water systems with solar and heat pump systems. This rebate is means-tested so to be eligible your household must have a combined taxable income of less than \$100,000 in the last financial year.

The Federal Government rebate program offers a rebate of \$1000. For full details of the rebate conditions and how to apply call the national information hotline on 1800 808 571 or visit www.greenhouse.gov.au/rebates.

Neither rebate program excludes the other so you may be eligible for both rebates.

Solar Power

Generating your own electricity at home is possible through the installation of solar panels on your roof. Solar panels work by turning sunlight into power and delivering it via a converter to the electrical system. Homes linked to the grid may return excess power to be used at night or on cloudy days, avoiding the need for batteries to store excess power.

Solar panels use photovoltaic (PV) technology, which is improving all the time and becoming cheaper.

The Federal Government offers rebates for solar power systems, under their Photovoltaic Rebate Program. Rebates are based on the number of solar panels installed and are capped at \$8000 for residential installations. The rebates are also available to community organisations and schools, with a maximum rebate of \$12000 in these situations.

For more information visit the website of the Australian Greenhouse Office www.greenhouse.gov.au/renewable or call the solar hotline on 1300 138 122.

Please note that you must apply for the rebate before you purchase and / or install your system.

Rainwater Tanks

By capturing and storing rainwater runoff from your roof, rainwater tanks can provide a valuable secondary source of water for use in and around your home.

Rebates for the purchase and installation of rainwater tanks are available from Sydney Water (in their area of operations) and the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change in other areas of the state. Rebates of up to \$1500 are available, depending on the size of the tanks you install and whether the tank is connected to your toilet and washing machine.

Full details are available either from Sydney Water on 13 20 92 or on their website at www.sydneywater.com.au, or

by calling 1300 361 967 or visiting www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates.

Washing Machines

Sydney Water also offers rebates for the purchase of water efficient washing machines. Rebates of up to \$150 are available when you live within Sydney Water's area of operations and purchase a 4 star or AAAAA rated washing machine. Eligible washing machines should be clearly marked in stores. For more details contact Sydney Water on 13 20 92.

Ceiling Insulation

A rebate has recently been made available to help offset the costs of installing ceiling insulation. Insulation is very effective in reducing heat loss and reduces the amount of energy required to heat and cool your home.

This rebate is available from the Department of Environment and Climate Change and covers half the cost of installing ceiling insulation, up to a maximum of \$300.

To be eligible you must install the insulation in a residential property, cover the entire ceiling area, make sure your insulation complies with the Australian Standard and meet a minimum rating for your climatic zone.

For more information visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 361 967.

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