

WATERTOWN FACES CLIMATE CHANGE

Watertown Electricity Choice Opt Up! FAQ's

WHAT IS WATERTOWN ELECTRICITY CHOICE?

Under Watertown Electricity Choice, the town enters into a contract with DirectEnergy to supply electricity through Eversource's distribution system that ensures stable prices for 27 months and provides 35% more renewable energy than Eversource does at a favorable price.. **There is also the option to choose 100% renewables.** By now you have received a "Town Electricity Aggregation Program Notification Letter" from the Town of Watertown. The town has posted a thorough explanation at <http://masspowerchoice.com/watertown>.

I'VE GOTTEN LOTS OF CALLS TO BUY "GREEN Electricity." HOW DO I KNOW I CAN I TRUST THIS PROGRAM?

This is a town sponsored program under the supervision and regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. It is designed to protect consumers and provide price stability and increase the amount of renewable energy in a town's electricity supply. The WEC contract will provide price stability over a period of 27 months. Individuals may withdraw from the program at any time.

HOW MUCH MORE WILL I HAVE TO PAY FOR 100% RENEWABLE?

This program gives you the option of buying electricity from 100% renewable sources at a small premium.

It will cost you \$1- \$3 per month more than you have been paying or would be paying at the Eversource rate for the delivery of electricity. **Customers paying Eversource \$60 a month in 2019 will pay on average \$1 a month more for the 100% Green Option. Customers paying Eversource \$120 a month will pay around \$2 a month more and customers paying \$180 a month will pay \$3 a month more.** If you do nothing, you will automatically be enrolled at the WEC Standard Rate (with 35% renewables), which will yield a small savings over the Eversource rates for 2019. The cost to opt up is small. Why not put the savings from the Standard Eversource Rate to good use and OPT UP!.

HOW TO OPT UP?

CALL 1-866-968-8065 and ask for 100% Renewable

ONLINE

<https://masspowerchoice.com/watertown/options-prices/change-your-option>.

you will need your Eversource Account Number

HOW DO I CALCULATE MY COSTS OR SAVINGS UNDER WATERTOWN ELECTRICITY CHOICE?

More than half of your electricity bill is Delivery Charges. Only the Supply Charges will change under Watertown Electricity Choice.

To compare to Eversource Rates, it is important to take into account that Eversource changes its rates every six months. Winter rates are always much higher than summer rates. The Watertown Electricity Choice notification only compares to the Summer Rate and therefore underestimates the savings. In 2019, the Eversource winter rate was \$.13588/kWh and the summer rate is \$.10836. Comparisons are based on an average of these two rates.

Cost of opting up depends on your actual usage. A recent Eversource bill will show your usage over the past several months. Use the table below to find the supply portion of your monthly electric bill under different options.

		MONTHLY SUPPLY BILL-does not include Delivery Charge		
What is Your USAGE	AVg kWh/month*	Eversource 2019 Avg . 14% Renewable	WEC Standard Rate 49% renewable	WEC Opt Up to 100% Rate
		.12212 (winter 0.13588 summer 0.10836)	0.11494/kWh	0.12718/kWh
Low	200	\$ 24	\$ 23	\$ 25
Average	425	\$ 52	\$ 49	\$ 54
High	625	\$ 76	\$ 72	\$ 79
If you do not have a monthly bill but know how much you usually pay you can do the conversion. Low usage = \$60/month, Average Usage= \$120/month, and High Usage = \$180 per month				

WHAT IF I CANNOT AFFORD TO OPT UP?

There is a small additional cost to opting up to 100%. If you cannot afford it, you can still feel good about the Standard Rate under WEC, which increases the amount of renewables by 35% over Eversource's supply and compared to Eversource 2019 rates will yield a small savings.

If you have a low income rate, you will continue to receive that benefit as a participant in Watertown Electricity Choice.

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE 100% RENEWABLES

Renewable energy such as wind, solar, or waterpower do not add carbon back into the environment like fossil fuels. There are very few ways that the average person can have an impact on fossil fuel use. If you can't afford an electric car or solar panels on your roof and you can't avoid driving and flying, then

purchasing electricity generated from renewable sources has the single greatest impact. Under the WEC program , you will be able to purchase 100% renewable energy for just a few dollars a month.

Watertown has set a goal of using 100% renewable energy for both municipal and non-municipal uses by [year?]. For a small amount of money, you can help the town achieve its goal. In addition, by increasing demand for renewable energy, you will be stimulating investment in renewable energy.

WHAT IS EVERSOURCE'S ROLE?

Eversource will still send you a monthly bill for supply and delivery.

ARE RENTERS ELIGIBLE?

YES! The WEC program covers all customers who are currently paying Eversource for electricity.

HOW DO I OPT UP?

Opting up to 100% Renewable is Easy. You can refer to your notification letter or consult the Watertown Electricity Choice webpage at <http://masspowerchoice.com/watertown>.

You will need your Eversource Account Number (it's on the opt out card that came with your letter and it's also on your bill)

CALL 1-866-968-8065 and ask to be OPTED UP to the 100% Green Option.

Or

ONLINE <https://masspowerchoice.com/watertown/options-prices/change-your-option>. If you use this option you must be prepared to respond to a verification phone call.

Watertown Faces Climate Change is a Working Group of Watertown Citizens for Peace Justice and the Environment and a Node of 350 Mass. Find us at WatertownCitizens.org