



LIVING OFF GRID



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An Introduction to Using Off-grid Solar Electricity

Zeke Yewdall

This book is not a manual in designing or building an off-grid solar electric system, but a guide to the lifestyle and thinking that goes into successful living off-grid and how to avoid the three main disappointments that many people experience when first living off grid:

1) Unrealistic expectations of what you can use off-grid for your budget: You can build an off-grid system for under \$1000. And you can run a house with every modern appliance. Those two are NOT the same off-grid system.

2) Not knowing how to operate it: You don't have to be an engineer to use an off grid solar power system, but you do need to understand some basic concepts about how it works.

3) Not paying attention to the weather and load on the system: Collecting our own energy from the sun can be rewarding, however it also requires paying attention to how much sun you have on a day to day basis and adjusting your behavior to match (or relying on a backup generator at additional cost).

Think of this book as drivers ed for off grid solar, not as an auto mechanics manual.

About the Author

Zeke Yewdall lives off grid in Washington state and teaches battery based PV system design for Solar Energy International. He has designed and built off-grid PV systems between 5 watts and 62,000 watts for the past 25 years.

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