

# 2022 GO SOLAR CHECKLIST

Helping northeast Iowans invest in  
solar power



**"Solar is trouble-free and so  
SATISFYING to know you're using  
the sun to generate electricity"  
-Perry-O Sliwa**

## STEP 1: LEARN

- ☐ Reduce before you produce! An energy efficient building will require a smaller (cheaper) array.
- ☐ Research Federal Tax Credits. Talk with your tax professional.
- ☐ Learn your utility's policies for net metering and interconnection
- ☐ Contact your Energy District with questions or a contractor for a solar site assessment. Site assessments also help determine payback period of a system

## STEP 2: PLAN

- ☐ Start your planning process by getting bids. Most contractors will conduct a basic site assessment with payback estimates and be willing to answer your initial questions and concerns at no cost.
- ☐ Touch bases directly with your utility regarding net metering and interconnection
- ☐ Secure financing. Some local banks, such as Decorah Bank and Trust, offer clean energy lending.

**[ENERGYDISTRICT.ORG/RESOURCES](https://energydistrict.org/resources)**

## STEP 3: IMPLEMENT

Implement ...and celebrate!

Post a photo of your new solar array on our facebook page. Use the hashtag #mysolarstory.

## STEP 4: ADVOCATE

Don't let utilities monopolize the sun!

Customer-owned solar is great for local clean energy prosperity, but not great for the monopoly business model of investor-owned utilities. Your energy district has fought hard for years to protect the customer's right to generate.

**An Iowa law, passed unanimously by both houses in March 2020, requires investor-owned utilities to offer some form of net-metering for at least seven years.** Solar installed in that time will be allowed to net-meter for their useful lifespan. This is a great win for consumers and the solar community.

Watch for alerts from your energy district and other clean energy advocates, and be in touch with your elected officials to protect grid access on fair terms and energy freedom. Sign up for our newsletter at [energydistrict.org](http://energydistrict.org).

**WAITING FOR YOUR SOLAR TO BE INSTALLED?**

**START SAVING MONEY NOW! GET A FIRST-STEP ENERGY ASSESSMENT.**

**VISIT [ENERGYDISTRICT.ORG/SERVICES](http://ENERGYDISTRICT.ORG/SERVICES)**

## FEATURED SOLAR CONTRACTORS

### DECORAH ELECTRIC

563-382-9473  
[DecorahElectric.com](http://DecorahElectric.com)  
Decorah, IA



### BLAKE ELECTRIC INC.

(563) 568-3686  
[BlakeElectricInc.com](http://BlakeElectricInc.com)  
Waukon and Postville, IA



### TOM MASSMAN CONSTRUCTION

563-380-6712  
[TomMassmanConstruction.com](http://TomMassmanConstruction.com)  
Decorah, IA



### PERRY NOVAK ELECTRIC

(563) 382-2179  
[PerryNovakElectric.com](http://PerryNovakElectric.com)  
Decorah and Charles City, IA



### GEO THERMAL ECO OPTIONS

(563) 382-0300  
[Geo-Inc.com](http://Geo-Inc.com)  
Cresco, IA



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[ENERGYDISTRICT.ORG](http://ENERGYDISTRICT.ORG)**

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