



## Saving Our World

By Emily Lucas

Do you know of some resources we could use to stop global warming? Well, I do. We need to find alternative energy resources that will be great for the Earth. Solar and wind energy is the only path to go. Marlborough would be best run with solar power. Let's find out why alternative energy is so important to us.

Alternative energies are more than just expensive to have installed and cool. They will help us in the long run. In 200 years, our world will be healthier, cleaner, and the polar ice caps will start to grow back. Global warming is the biggest issue with burning the fossil fuels for the energy that we are mostly using now and NASA has found out that the "permanent ice cover is contracting of a rate of 9 percent each decade. If the trend continues, there could be no more polar ice caps by the end of the century." We need those polar ice caps because if we don't, sea levels will rise and cities will be flooded. Also, temperatures will rise which will cause dry soil and warm winters. One way to decrease global warming is to stop burning fossil fuels for energy.

When we burn fossil fuels we produce heat-trapping gases that cause global warming. Heat is trapped by greenhouse gases which make our earth warmer. The greenhouse gases are Carbon dioxide, Methane, Nitrous oxide, and others gases. They can “stay in the atmosphere for thousands of years.” We need to stop putting more greenhouse gases in our atmosphere and using alternative energies will do this.

To reduce global warming we need to use more alternative energies such as solar power. Solar power is obtained by harnessing the energy of the sun's rays. There are many benefits to having solar power. First, it is free! You don't hear that word very often because people need to pay money for energy. The only cost you have to pay for solar power is to buy solar panels and get the panels installed. The good thing is, since solar panels are becoming a big thing, people are making businesses out of it and the price is going down. The down side of regular power is that there can be many outages that can last for days. With solar energy, you don't have to worry about that. The solar panels “provide instant backup electrical power in any outage or disaster.” So, you will always have power no matter what goes wrong with the power lines or the power company. Also, solar energy is not only good for us, but it is good for the environment. “We don't have to refine it, like oil.” Sun is sun and we don't have to change it any way to make it energy. “It's not dirty and doesn't pollute the environment.” It doesn't distribute greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and make our earth warmer. Solar power is a great creation that should be used by everyone across the globe.

Solar power is not the only alternative energy there is out there. Wind energy is a growing source of energy in some parts of the world. Parts of the world like Holland have flat land “and the wind often blows.” You really need to live in the right area to have wind energy. Wind energy “is cheap, once the turbines are in place.” You don't have to buy wind like you

don't have to buy solar rays. So, wind energy is free once the turbines are set and ready. "Wind is a renewable energy resource. There are no dangerous waste products, and it is clean, with no pollution." Wind will blow forever, whereas fossil fuels can't be replaced after used all up. There is a limited supply of fossil fuels that will eventually be used up. Wind energy does not distribute any greenhouse gases into the atmosphere which will help stop global warming. There is technology that can "store excess wind... and release it on demand." This will help for when the wind stops blowing, you still have energy to work your homes. So when you use wind energy, you can have power 24/7 and you will never have to worry about your ice cream melting in that freezer! Now we can put as much stuff in our freezer and it will never go bad, and it will also reduce global warming!

Marlborough citizens would be better off putting solar panels up instead of wind turbines. Marlborough has lots of hills and some flat land. You really need all flat land for wind turbines to work really well. Wind speeds are very low from June to October. May is pretty high while April is very low. The highest wind speeds are found in March. To get a lot of energy for homes, you should have high wind speeds all year round. Marlborough has many clear sky days at the sun will be the most powerful. On average, Marlborough has 202 clear sky days each year. So, Marlborough is better suited to getting solar panels.

Alternative energies are a big idea that is getting put into action all across the globe. Our president Barrack Obama is very big on alternative energies. There are two types of environmental friendly energies that are known across the globe. They are solar and wind. They will reduce global warming, not distribute any greenhouse gases into the air and will change our world forever. All Marlborough citizens will have solar panels up by 2030, I guaranty it. I say we all save the world sooner rather than later.

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