



Baltimore Can Benefit From More Clean Energy

Across Maryland, clean energy is booming – reducing pollution, cleaning our air, creating jobs and saving money. Contributing to the boom is the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – America’s best regional clean air and climate program – which is limiting pollution and generating funding for clean energy programs.

But we can do much more. We have the tools to power our society entirely with clean energy sources like the wind and the sun, while also using energy more efficiently. Clean energy can help protect Baltimore from the worst impacts of global warming, such as sea-level rise, and build a healthier and more prosperous future.

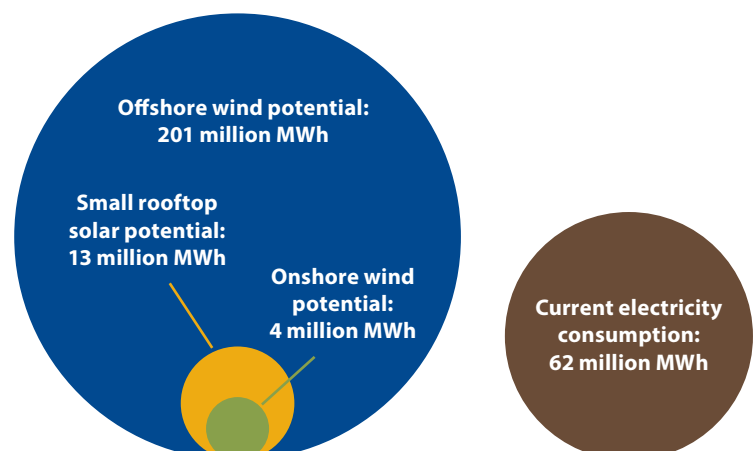
To accelerate our progress, Maryland and other Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states should double the strength of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to help create an even stronger market for clean energy.

Here’s how more clean energy can benefit Baltimore – and Maryland:

Maryland Has Immense Renewable Energy Potential

Maryland could generate nearly **four times more electricity with solar and wind power than it uses in the course of a year**. Tapping even a fraction of that potential could enable Maryland to power itself entirely with clean energy.

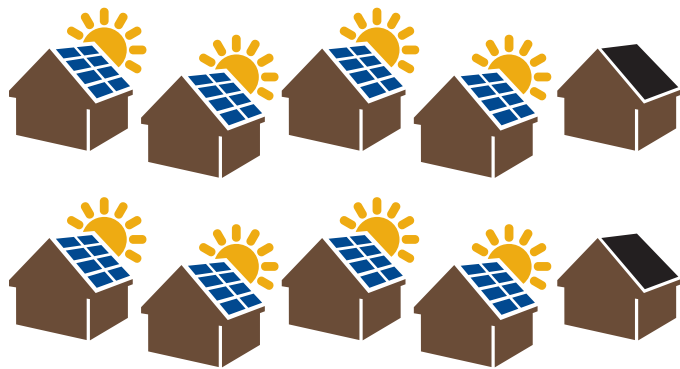
Comparison of Renewable Energy Technical Potential and Current Consumption in Maryland



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Clean Energy Can Replace Dirty Fuels

Maryland has the potential to generate nearly **11 times more electricity from wind and solar than is currently produced by polluting fuels**, like gas, in the state.



Baltimore's Rooftops Can Generate Clean Electricity Locally

Nearly **8 out of 10 small buildings in Baltimore have the potential to host rooftop solar panels** – providing reliable electricity for residents and reducing dependence on fossil fuels, according to data from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Maryland Has Tremendous, Untapped Wind Energy Potential

Maryland has the potential to produce enough power with onshore and offshore wind turbines to **power all the homes in Maryland seven times over**.



Offshore wind, pictured here in Denmark, is currently undeveloped in Maryland.

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Energy Efficiency Is Saving Money and Cutting Pollution

Baltimore ranks 11th among cities for energy efficiency, according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Energy efficiency programs implemented in 2015 in Baltimore **saved enough energy to power all the homes in Charles Village.**



Clean Energy Creates Jobs

Nearly **2,000 people in the Baltimore area are employed in solar energy**, while more than 23,000 people have “clean jobs.”

Renewable Energy is Good Business

Businesses and organizations in Baltimore and across Maryland benefit from **a growing clean energy economy**. For example, funding through Maryland’s participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative has provided energy efficiency upgrades to hundreds of families, including the 100,000 residents of the Shalom Square senior living complex in Columbia. Efficiency projects undertaken in 2014 now save beneficiaries a total of \$70,000 per year on electricity bills and prevent as much carbon pollution as emitted annually by 70 passenger cars.



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Stronger Action Will Make Us Healthier

Clean air means better health. In its first six years, **the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative saved 60 lives in Maryland** and prevented 5,000 missed work days due to respiratory illness, according to Abt Associates. Cutting pollution faster would save even more lives and improve public health in Maryland.



Stronger Action Will Boost Our Economy

Between 2009 and 2014, the **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative boosted Maryland's economy by \$348 million**, according to reports by Analysis Group. Doubling the strength of the program as part of a larger climate change program could reduce energy bills in the nine participating states by \$25 billion and create nearly 60,000 new jobs, according to a report by the Sierra Club.

Maryland Should Take the Lead

Maryland has set strong goals on clean energy and fighting climate change – now it's time to achieve them. **Governor Hogan should double the pace at which Maryland is cutting pollution and investing in clean energy.** In 2017, the state should strengthen the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to cut carbon pollution by 5 percent per year – and persuade neighboring states to do the same.



For more information and citations, please visit www.EnvironmentMaryland.org/RGGIBaltimore

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