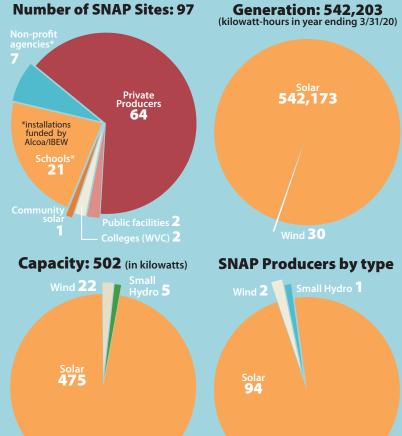




**Note:** An average home in Chelan County uses approximately 22,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year.





## Welcome, new producers!

Three solar producers joined Chelan PUD's SNAP program in the past year. Together they added 19 kilowatts of capacity to SNAP, which is now in its 19th year. Generation for 2019-20 totaled 542,203 kilowatt hours,

enough to power 24 homes.

## Chelan County homeowners are adding solar to their homes for a variety of reasons. Meet our new SNAP producers for 2019-20:

## Robert and Jane Wooten,

1200 Jefferson St., Wenatchee, placed 18 panels on a shop behind their home that they are turning into a cottage.

"When I look out at the shop we're renovating, it has a 30-degree roof with all southern exposure," Robert said. "It's like it was made for solar panels.

"When I told the person doing the renovating work I wanted to do solar, he said 'Why would you do that? We have the lowest electricity rates in the U.S.' The electrician said the same thing.

"When I finally convinced them, talking about the credits and tax benefits, and that if you generate enough (power) you actually get some money back, then they kind of see that it does make sense from a financial point of view. And it's good for the environment, too."

Eighteen panels were squeezed on the rooftop initially, Robert said. Robert and Jane Wooten's cottage was perfectly suited for solar panels.

He is now reconfiguring after a couple panels were not working properly.

The system should generate about 5.58 kW (18 panels at 310 watts each).

Mark Karnofski of Leavenworth Electric installed the system.

Robert and Jane are retired. Robert grew up back east but his mother was born in Wenatchee, and he has been in the area since he got out of college in the late '70s. "I love this place," he said. Jane has lived in their home since 1954.

## Brian and Mara Bohman,

7840 E Leavenworth Road, moved to Leavenworth five years ago from the west side of Washington. Brian is retired and Mara is semi-retired.

"We lived in the small cabin on the property for the first few years, and then built a new home three years ago," Mara explained.

"Being east of the mountains where there is so much abundant sunshine, in addition to current solar incentives, helped to make the decision to install solar easy," she said. "We feel it is important to support the sustainable energy industry."

Mark Karnofski of Leavenworth Electric installed the

system. Local builder Mark Pulse constructed the racks that support the panels.

The system sits on the northwest side of their property. It is rated at 9.92 kW.

**Alan and Michelle Scott,** 915 Grenz St., Wenatchee, wanted to see if they could lower their electric bill, even just a little.

"It's not very high," Alan said of their energy costs, "but at the same time the idea of solar was new and interesting."

Brimma Solar of Seattle installed the panels on their garage roof and they began generating power last July.

"We were doing really well throughout the

summer," Alan said. Bills went up over the winter, which is to be expected as home heating kicks in.

Energy efficiency improvements to the home might help lower electric costs as well, Alan said.

The system is rated at 3 kW.



Started in 2001, the SNAP program is designed to **help make small-scale solar and wind power more cost-effective** for customers. The program connects customers who want to produce solar and wind power with other local customers who want to support the development of new, renewable energy.

Under the program, customers voluntarily pay a little extra on their utility bills. The PUD collects these customer donations and distributes them once a year to our SNAP producers -- individuals, schools and nonprofit agencies that are generating solar and wind power. SNAP renewable energy either is consumed by the producer through net metering, or goes into the PUD's electrical grid and is distributed to PUD customers.

Customers who support SNAP are helping build renewable energy in Chelan County. Customers who produce energy for SNAP are helping grow a new, renewable resource to complement our abundant hydropower.







Find more on solar and wind energy at chelanpud.org/ about-snap



