

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between Energy and Power?

At wind speeds greater than 8 mph, the Windspire® will begin producing power, which is measured in Watts (W) or kilowatts (kW). Power output jumps up and down as quickly as the wind changes speed, so the industry measures output over time in kilowatt-hours (kWh) which is how many watts of power are consumed over a full hour. Your electric company charges you for energy usage based on a rate/kWh. Over the course of a year, the 1.2kW Windspire will produce approximately 2000 kWh in 12 mph average winds to help offset the energy you require from the electric company. This is approximately one-third to one-fifth of the energy usage of an average US home.

How Much Does a Windspire® Cost?

The Windspire is priced around \$6,500 before installation and rebates, with a limited 5-year warranty. Shipping costs vary the price.

Are There Tax Credits Available?

The Federal Government provides a 30 percent tax credit for the total cost of the unit, including installation. Many state and local municipalities also offer rebates, as do local power companies.

Is it Safe for Birds?

The Windspire® rotates at a lower speed than most wind turbines and is more visible to flying birds. So far, we have had no reports of collisions – and we have had one report of a nest built under an active unit.

Are There Specific Requirements for Potential Customers?

A Windspire® site requires land with unobstructed wind and adequate space for installation. The Windspire also needs at least class two winds – ideally class three (an average of 12 mph) – and a tie to the power grid.

Is the Windspire® a Grid-Tie or Off-Grid Product?

The currently available Windspire is grid-tie, which requires the unit to be tied into the local utility grid. An off-grid version of the Windspire® is in development and will be available soon.

Can I sell electricity back to the grid?

Some utilities offer net metering agreements that allow the sale of excess power back to the grid.

Is the Windspire® Independently Tested and Certified?

The Windspire is independently tested at Windward Engineering in Spanish Fork, Utah. This testing allows customers to know what level of power production to expect from specific wind ranges. The Windspire received ETL certification as of March 2008 for the U.S. and Canada, which includes UL and IEEE testing.

What Is the Maintenance?

The Windspire® requires zero maintenance as its ball bearings are greased for life. Durable construction enables it to produce power for 20+ years. A dual-layer paint coat, rust proof spray, and zinc plating are applied for weather protection.

