

Chickatawbut Hill - Solar Array

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT DETAILS

Less than thirty minutes from Boston, Blue Hills Reservation is a haven for those who enjoy exploring the outdoors. Now the area is also the site of a **48 kW solar photovoltaic (PV) array, the largest in a Massachusetts state park.** This installation on Chickatawbut Hill, located adjacent to the Reservation and managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), will generate some 63,000 kWh annually - enough energy to power both the nearby Blue Hills Trailside Museum and the Norman Smith Environmental Education Center with clean, safe, homegrown electricity. The solar array installation was overseen by the Division of Capital Asset Management and will reduce the utility bill by \$8,000 a year. The installation will be used to educate students and community members about the importance of renewable energy.



Above Photo: Chickatawbut Hill's 48 kW solar array was installed in 2011 and funded by federal stimulus dollars.

FUNDING

The Department of Energy Resources (DOER) allocated a \$203,544 grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to support this project. Additional funding came from a \$176,340 federal Clean Renewable Energy Bond.

Solar Energy Spotlight

The DOER provided over \$15 million in federal stimulus dollars to fund solar projects in Massachusetts. These funds will result in a solar capacity increase of over 10 MW in the Commonwealth - enough to power more than 1,900 homes each year with clean, renewable electricity.



Top Photo: A trail sign at Chickatawbut Hill in Milton

Bottom Photo: State officials preparing to cut the ribbon and officially unveil the installation

AT A GLANCE:

- **48 kW system will provide all of the electricity needed for the nearby museum and education center**
- **Largest solar array in a Massachusetts state park**
- **The Department of Conservation and Recreation's utility bill will be reduced by more than \$8,000 annually**
- **Panels will generate enough electricity to create \$18,000 in solar credit revenue per year**

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 invested nearly \$70 million into energy efficiency and clean energy programs managed by the Department of Energy Resources in Massachusetts. These funds are being put to work to create jobs, spur innovation, and ensure the development of clean, sustainable energy sources right here in the Commonwealth.

