

KENTUCKY WOMAN CHOOSES SOLAR PV TO HELP REDUCE HER CARBON FOOTPRINT



Anna Kunzler describes her decision to go solar as just one of the many choices she has made in her journey to minimize her impact on the environment. This is made obvious by a short visit to her property in Sulfur, KY. Here, evidence of Anna's choices are abound; from her organic garden and free-roaming chickens to the rescued wild birds she houses (which include several owls, hawks and a vulture),¹ to her newly installed solar system.

Kunzler said that she has been “thinking about solar power for as long as she remembers”. Her interest in self-sufficiency began in college with a subscription to the Rodale Press published magazines and literature which focused on educating the public on the benefits of organic gardening. From there, a new hobby in gardening took root in Kunzler. Later, other choices followed to consciously minimize her footprint on the earth. For example, Anna decided to become a vegetarian and also took a strong interest and concern in rescuing wild birds.¹

Then, as Anna began to make plans for her house in the mid 1990s, she investigated a myriad of options to reduce her carbon footprint that included active solar, geothermal and passive solar. As a first step, passive solar was incorporated into her current home. Initially, Anna believed that active solar was not a feasible option for her but learned otherwise through a non-profit group called Appalachia – Science in the Public Interest ([ASPI](#)). ASPI's goal is to promote sustainable development, responsible resource management and informed personal choices.

That led her to contact SunWind Power where our relationship began. She learned that active solar was an affordable choice that she could utilize. Following an assessment that

determined active solar was a viable option, Anna made a commitment toward a solar system. Kunzler now is a proud owner of a 4.68 kW grid-tied system which will reduce her carbon footprint by preventing **7.37 tons of CO₂** emissions per year.²



Issues such as coal-mining, oil-spills, and climate change can be overwhelming and lead to feelings of helplessness. Anna made personal choices in her lifestyle that helped empower her to make a difference toward these larger-than-life issues. Her decision to go solar is not only an economic and financial investment, but an investment in the future of our next generation.

¹Anna is currently a board member of Wingspans of Kentucky, a non-profit group dedicated to the preservation of wild birds. Anna's friends, Chuck and Michele Culp, formed the non-profit organization, [WingSpan of Kentucky](#) to aid in rehabilitation of raptors. You can help support this organization by participating in the Kroger gift program. For more ways to help, you can call 502-228-9034.

² The average household CO₂ emissions from electrical usage is approximately 7.4 metric tons per year in North America..