

Maryland Dog Daycare is a Resilient Clean Energy Model

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) continues to develop innovative energy programs that drive economic development, energy resilience and recovery for Marylanders

MEA offers a wide variety of grants and tax credits that help residents close the savings gap on everything from home heating to electric vehicle charging equipment. Read about some of our featured grants here and visit us online at www.Energy.Maryland.gov, to see our full list of programs for residents, businesses, nonprofits and local government agencies.

Maryland was the first state in the country to offer an energy storage income tax credit. The program is available to residential and commercial taxpayers who have installed an energy storage system on their residential or commercial property in Maryland during Tax Year 2020 (January 1 – December 31, 2020).

MEA provides Clean Energy Rebates to businesses, nonprofits, local governments, and State of Maryland government agencies and departments that install clean energy systems on facilities located in the state. MEA also offers a Residential Clean Energy Rebate Program for homeowners who install renewable energy measures in their home like solar or geothermal.



Dog's Day Farm, owned by Kelly and Matt Brown, is the first Maryland business to take advantage of both the Commercial Clean Energy Rebate Program to install a solar system and the Maryland Energy Storage Tax Credit Program to install a battery system which will store energy generated by the solar panels for use at a later time. Dog's Day Farm is a 25-acre, kennel free dog daycare and boarding service in Gaithersburg. In addition to outdoor space, the farm has ample climate-controlled indoor spaces which must be maintained in all seasons for the health and safety of the animals in their care.

The farm owners decided to purchase a solar and battery system in the spring of 2019 to enable the farm to become more resilient. Kelly and Matt wanted to make sure that in the event of a power outage, whether temporary or multi-day, their staff would be able to provide the same level of comfort to their clients' cherished "family members". Specifically, Matt wanted to be able to continue providing air-conditioning for the dogs in the summer, heat in the winter, and more importantly to have running water, since the farm is on a well.

"I'm very happy with our decision to invest in solar and battery storage. Not only is our business and farm much more resilient, but our energy costs have been reduced to the nominal administrative cost of being connected to the grid," says owner Matt Brown.

With the installation of a 38 kilowatt solar array and five Tesla Powerwalls, which provide 67.5 kilowatts per hour of energy storage, Dog's Day Farm has made their business more energy resilient; meaning that the farm can quickly recover from a power outage. MEA assisted in the funding for both projects and awarded the farm a \$5,528.50 solar installation rebate and a \$12,627.30 tax credit for the energy storage installation. Get more information on both of these programs online at Energy.Maryland.gov or email us at DLInfo_MEA@maryland.gov.



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