

Renewable Energy: What and Why

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Renewable energy is any natural source of energy that does not run out. Renewable energy comes from many things in nature such as the sun, wind, running water, and hot magma and steam deep inside Earth.

Solar energy can be used to provide electricity in homes or buildings. Solar energy can also be used directly to provide heat. We can convert the **kinetic** (moving) power of the **wind** into electricity too. And water energy (**hydropower**) is another common method for obtaining energy. Last but not least another renewable source used today is called geothermal energy. **Geothermal energy** is heat and steam captured from inside the Earth.

Renewable energy sources are wonderful options because they are limitless. We won't run out of them as we will eventually run out of the **fossil fuels** (such as coal, oil and natural gas) that we currently depend upon. Also, another great benefit of using renewable energy is that many of these sources do not pollute our air and water the way that burning fossil fuels do. You will probably hear more and more about sources of renewable energy in the days and months to come!