



BUSINESS

Connections

Be wise. Analyze before you invest in solar!

Are you a business or landlord in the Greater Groton Business Community? Then you need to be wise and analyze before you sign a contract to install solar panels at your facility.

arranged for an independent consultant to help you get all the right answers about your potential solar investment. **Moreover, it is FREE!**

Thinking about solar, but not sure that you can afford the investment?

Will you get a good return on your solar investment?

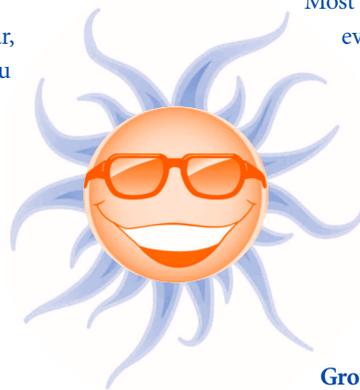
Are solar vendors overwhelming you with offers they claim are too good to pass up?

How do you compare one vendor's proposal to another's?

Trying to balance the contractor's proposal with **Groton Utilities** standard tariff?

Groton Utilities has the best way for you to get the answer to all your solar investment questions.

What you need is an unbiased, third-party, **Solar Energy Financial Evaluation**. **Groton Utilities** has



Most importantly, the evaluation results will be confidential. The results will not be shared with **Groton Utilities** unless you, the customer, want to provide **Groton Utilities** with the results.

Groton Utilities wants you to make the best financial decision when it comes to investing in solar. The investment in a solar system can be substantial—a nice way to say expensive—so it is important that you review all the information before making the right decision for you.

If you are ready to start an evaluation, visit our web site at grotonutilities.com. Point and click the “*Happy Sun*” icon, and you will be ready to start your **FREE Solar Energy Financial Evaluation**.

Groton Utilities is, as always, at your service.

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Groton's Annual Fall Festival—It's your annual event

The date is Saturday, October 6, 2018. Mark your calendar now. This is the date for your annual fall event—

Groton's Annual Fall Festival. Your presence demonstrates your commitment to the Greater Groton community. If you haven't attended, it is time for you to discover Groton's Annual Fall Festival. It's the fourteenth one!

The festival is a rain or shine event and runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Groton's Annual Fall Festival is a special community event created and sponsored by the Groton Business Association (GBA) of the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce (GMCC).

Poquonnock Plains Park, centrally



located in the middle of Groton, is the festival site. This will be the site of

an arts and crafts show, business displays, exhibits, food vendors and entertainment.

You can obtain full information on how to become a sponsor by going to the GBA website at grotonbiz.com or calling the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce at (860) 572-9578. Fall festival sponsors are also promoted and listed as sponsors for the annual Groton Holiday Tree Lighting Event, scheduled for December 1, 2018.

For businesses, this is an opportunity to connect with your current customers and attract new ones. For

artists and crafters, it gives you access to thousands of new customers. For non-profit organizations, it is an opportunity to promote your message to thousands in person.

The GBA would like to recognize the companies who sponsored last year's event. They are **Groton Utilities** and the Groton Parks and Recreation Department, Capstone Sponsors; Chelsea Groton Bank, Darrell Fox, Centurion Wealth Management, Grover Insurance, and The Light House, Fieldstone Sponsors.

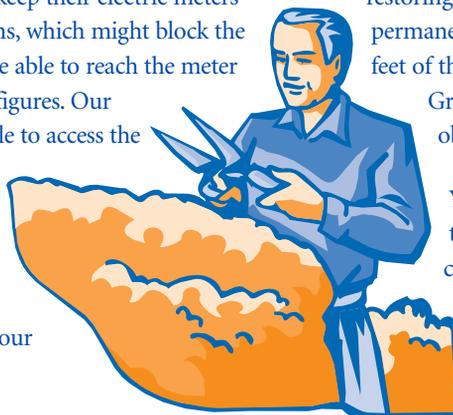
The GBA, a coalition of representatives from the local business community, the educational sector, the non-profit community and governmental units, is an affiliation of the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce.

Keep electric meters clear

It is important that our customers keep their electric meters clear of growth and any obstructions, which might block the meter. Our meter readers need to be able to reach the meter easily to obtain the monthly usage figures. Our operations personnel need to be able to access the meter for the repair purposes.

If you allow your meter to be blocked for whatever reason, then you are violating the law. In a practical sense, you are hampering our efforts to do our job and serve you.

Commercial customers should be mindful of the fact that obstructions in front of electrical equipment such as pad mount transformers or handholds can cause delays when



restoring electric service. No shrubs, fences, or permanent structures can be placed within twenty feet of the front and three feet of the sides and back.

Groton Utilities has the right to remove these obstructions without notice to the owner.

You are reminded that you should not tamper with the meter, its seals, or connections under penalty of law.

We are also concerned about safety. Blockages of meters could pose a safety hazard to our workers.

Use common sense. Keep your electric meter clear and free from growth and debris.

Call before you start to dig

If you're planning an outside project that includes digging a hole—no matter how shallow or deep—don't start before learning the locations of underground lines on your property.



To find out, dial 811 to reach Call Before You Dig at least two full working days before your job is scheduled to begin. This crucial safety service is free and required by law.

Call Before You Dig will notify participating utilities to mark the locations of underground lines so you can clearly see areas you need to avoid. There may be buried lines for services such as gas, water, electricity, telephone and cable.

Don't think a small hole won't matter. Some lines may be buried just a few inches below the surface, often where you least expect them. Damaging or

disturbing one could cause property damage and result in loss of utility service to your property or the entire neighborhood. Even worse, someone could be seriously hurt.

For more information, including an online homeowner's brochure you can download, visit cbyd.com.

A final reminder—Call Before You Dig is a free service!

National Aviation Day, Sunday August 19th

Celebrate National Aviation Day on Sunday, August 19, at the 5th Annual Groton-New London Airport Open House and Walking Tour. Here is your opportunity to get an insider look at your regional airport.

This is a free public event for all, including the whole family. It happens from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., rain or shine. There will be displays, tours and demonstrations at various sites at the airport.

Model aircraft and drone flight demonstrations will be the feature this year, highlighting safety in recreational drone flying and commercial drone pilot careers.

Young Eagles will offer free, introductory airplane rides for youth ages 8-17 with parent/guardian permission.

Attendees are invited to visit the airport businesses and facilities by taking advantage of timed tours at the 1109th CT Army

Reserve National Guard helicopter repair unit, Survival Systems USA training center, Coastal Air & Action Multi Ratings flight schools, and the Mystic Jet Center and aircraft hangar.

Throughout the day, there will be aviation experts and volunteers to talk with including those from the New England Air Museum, and you can view aircraft up-close as well as meet their owners and pilots.

Visitors are invited to start in the Main Terminal located at 155 Tower Avenue.

This is a community event put on by Mystic Jet Center, the other airport tenants, and airport owner/operator, the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA).

For more information or questions, contact Stacy Ritchotte at Mystic Jet Center at sritchotte@mysticjetcenter.com.

Our Key Accounts Team—ready to serve you

Questions about rates? Looking to save dollars by taking new conservation measures? Wondering what Groton Utilities can do to help your business? If you are a business in the Groton Utilities service area, our Key Accounts Team is ready to serve you.

Heading our team is Len Mediavilla, General Manager, Key Accounts. Other team members are Hollis McKee, Energy Engineer, and Aaron Brooks, Utility Analytics Manager.



Mediavilla can be reached at 860-446-4054 or mediavilla@grotonutilities.com.

McKee can be reached at 860-440-9932 or mckeeh@grotonutilities.com.

Brooks can be reached at 860-440-9933 or brooksa@grotonutilities.com

Groton Utilities

has been a municipally owned and operated electric and water utility since 1904.

*We live up to our motto:
At your service.*



Holiday Closings

Our offices at the City Municipal Building, including Customer Service and Project Management, and our Operational Sections located at The Julio H. Leandri Operations Complex on Poquonnock Road, will be closed for these upcoming holidays:

Wednesday, July 4
Independence Day

Monday, September 3
Labor Day

Monday, October 8
Columbus Day

Groton Utilities' operations crews for both water and electric are available on an emergency basis during holidays. If you experience an electrical outage or a water main break, call us at 860-446-4000, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Customer Service lobby hours are Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

Groton Utilities hopes you and your family have enjoyable holidays. Please drive safely. **And, yes, don't forget to buckle up!**



Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) statement
The City of Groton is an Equal Opportunity Employer in accordance with Federal, State and local laws. Discrimination because of an individual's race, color, religious creed, age, gender, sex (including pregnancy) marital status, national origin, ancestry, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status or any other protected class is prohibited.

Your Annual Water Quality Report is now available on our website



Each year, **Groton Utilities** distributes a copy of our Annual Water Quality Report to our customers. The report summarizes water quality results from the previous year and contains information about the source and treatment of your drinking water.

We have posted the 2017 Annual Water Quality Report on our website instead of printing and mailing it to you. For the fifth consecutive year, we have taken the more environmentally friendly means of distributing the report.

Groton Utilities encourages you to take some time to read this important information. You can access the report by entering http://www.grotonutilities.com/download/water/water_quality_reports/2017.pdf in the address bar to either view or print a copy. Please note that there is an underscore in "water_quality_reports" when you type the web address.

If you would prefer that a paper copy be mailed to you, please call us at (860) 446-4000 to request a copy.

Please share this important water quality information with other water users at your location who do not receive a bill.

Energy-saving tips

- **No-cost money savers.** Here are a few no-cost ways to save energy right now: open shades to take advantage of natural sunlight, turn off lights that aren't needed, remove unnecessary light bulbs, raise your air conditioning settings, and turn off all equipment when not needed.
- **Tune-up your cooling system.** Although hot summer weather is already here, it's not too late for a cooling system tune-up. If you didn't do it at the beginning of the season, you should have a qualified technician inspect, test and clean your system now. Also, make sure to turn off air conditioning in unoccupied areas, and check to see if thermostats are at proper levels. For individual air conditioners, clean or change filters once a month during the cooling season.
- **Consider installing fans.** Window fans or ceiling fans cost less to run than air conditioning, and they can lessen or even eliminate the need for AC. Also, put up blinds, shades or draperies to block the sun during the hottest part of the day to hold down air conditioning costs.