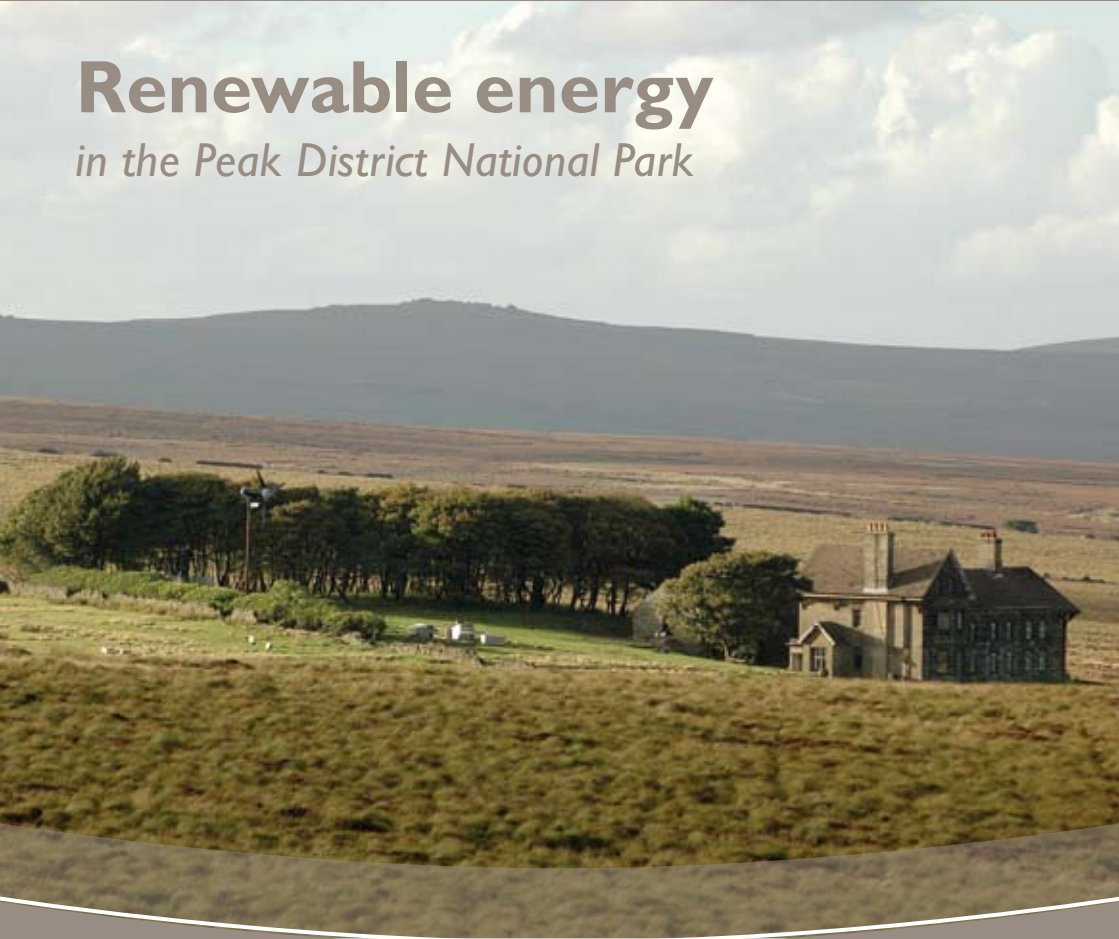


Renewable energy

in the Peak District National Park



People, now more than ever, are looking at renewable energy to help reduce their impact on the environment. But first let us consider reducing the energy we use now.

Why? Because in the UK, one quarter of all carbon dioxide emissions come from the energy used to light and heat houses.

What you can do today to save energy

- Turn off lights that are not being used
- Close windows that could leak out heat
- Don't leave your TV or computer on stand by
- Draft proof windows or doors
- Take showers instead of baths
- Only boil water that you need
- Use energy efficient light bulbs
- Only use your washing machine / dishwasher when full
- Turn down your thermostat and ensure you have an efficient boiler
- Insulate your loft, boiler, ground floor and external walls
- Don't drive - walk, cycle or use public transport
- Visit www.saveenergy.co.uk and see what else you can do.

Renewable energy in a National Park

As an environmental organisation we encourage people to help us look after and protect the National Park. One of the key ways we do this is through our planning policies.

Key to any successful planning application for renewable energy in the National Park is how it works with the buildings and landscape.

If you have ideas please contact us first, so we can help advise you on what is possible in your area and discuss government grants available to you.

Contact us: Tel: 01 629 81 6200 or email: customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk



Wind farm outside the National Park - a full scale farm would be unlikely to get permission within the Park

Ground-source heat pumps

Use the higher temperature of the ground and upgrade it to provide constant, low-cost hot water and central heating. Underground pipes are needed but only require a small space. When finished, the ground is completely restored – so a great system for the National Park. The National Park Authority has two – the new Moorland Centre in Edale, and the new cycle-hire centre at Parsley Hay.

Biomass boilers

These burn replenishable living matter, such as agricultural waste, bonemeal, or straw. One using wood-chips can be seen at Losehill Hall, the National Park's environmental learning centre near Castleton.

Hydro-power

Used for centuries as a Peak District power-source - water has great potential now. Modern systems need only a two-metre fall of water for a micro-turbine to power a house. Old equipment is being refurbished – at Chatsworth, a century-old system now provides lighting, and at Longnor; a mill-wheel was restored.

Solar energy

Photovoltaic tiles and thermal panels are now more efficient yet they need careful positioning to avoid being intrusive. For least visual impact, panels should be matt, and sited on the back of the building, preferably in a recessed box. Worth considering are photovoltaic roof-tiles, which are more expensive, but can simulate traditional slates.

Wind turbines

Not always best for a National Park, as they are a challenge to place without intruding upon the landscape. Small-scale individual ones are feasible if well-designed, appropriately coloured and use landscape features to aid their integration. (See front cover.) They do not provide constant energy, so may be best used with other technologies.



For further information from the National Park Authority

For initial planning inquiries Tel: 01629 816361

For energy advice www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/energy

For advice on sustainable development funds www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/sdf
or call Tel: 01629 816312

Other useful websites

Energy efficiency advice for households www.saveenergy.co.uk

Energy efficiency advice for companies www.actionenergy.org.uk

www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk

www.est.org.uk

www.cat.org.uk

www.ecoheatpumps.co.uk

www.microgeneration.com

www.solarcentury.com

Community groups can get free professional advice & services at High Peak and Derbyshire Dales ProHelp www.highpeakcvs.org or Tel: 01663 735350.

We are happy to provide this information in alternative formats on request where reasonable, so please contact us.

Working together for the Peak District National Park:

- a special environment
- a welcoming place at the heart of the nation
- vibrant communities and a thriving economy

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

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*front cover: Stanedge Lodge
Wind Turbine, Stanage*