

IX. ENERGY

The Town's energy consumption is affected by local efforts for conservation, energy development, and land use decisions.

In 2003, the following item was duly warned and adopted at the Mount Holly Town Meeting:

“Be it resolved that the citizens of the town of Mount Holly urgently call upon our municipal leaders, state legislators, governor, and congressional delegation to put Vermont in the forefront of a sustainable energy future. Specifically, we request immediate and ongoing action on legislative initiatives designed to promote energy efficiency in Vermont's homes, businesses, public buildings, and transportation systems, and to encourage expansion of the renewable energy industry in the state of Vermont.”

The Town is crossed by two high voltage transmission lines – 115kv (serviced by a substation of 2.5 megawatts) and 345kv (*recently upgraded*)

Most homes in Town are heated with petroleum products, but a substantial number heat with wood, and the Town is blessed with good supplies of this clean, renewable fuel. A few homes use solar energy, and there are two windmills, including the one at the Mount Holly Elementary School. Although Mount Holly is not rated as a good wind area, the school gets 11% of its energy supply from its windmill.

Although some homes generate all their energy needs and are therefore “off the grid”, there is little town-wide dissemination of the experience of homeowners with alternative energy sources.

No water energy sources in Town are known.

Town Garage is using waste oil in its burner.

Conservation of energy used for outdoor lighting (and reduction of night light pollution) is addressed in the publication “Outdoor Lighting Manual for Vermont Municipalities”.