What's on the Roof of the Pavilion?

In September of 2009, The Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI), as part of the Plymouth Rotary Club's Sustainability Fair installed a 160 watt solar electric panel on the roof of the Riverside Park's pavilion. PAREI and Mauchly Electric organized a crew of volunteers to complete this project. This netmetered panel will produce 166 KWH a year offsetting the electricity needed to run the park. This panel also serves as a visual reminder to our community to continue to look for ways to reduce our community's overall energy consumption. This solar panel holds a place in Plymouth's history. It is the first solar panel to be installed on municipal property.

The Solar Electric System

Sun Energy gathered from the Photovoltaic Panels (PV) are sent to an inverter to change the energy current from DC to AC. From there an electric meter on-site calculates how many Kilowatt-Hours (kwh) are being gathered from the PV Panel. This energy is then used to power the lighting and sound equipment. If the park doesn't need this energy, it is sent to the power grid so that others can benefit from the solar energy made here. This unused solar energy is then credited to the park's electric bill. This is called net-metering.

