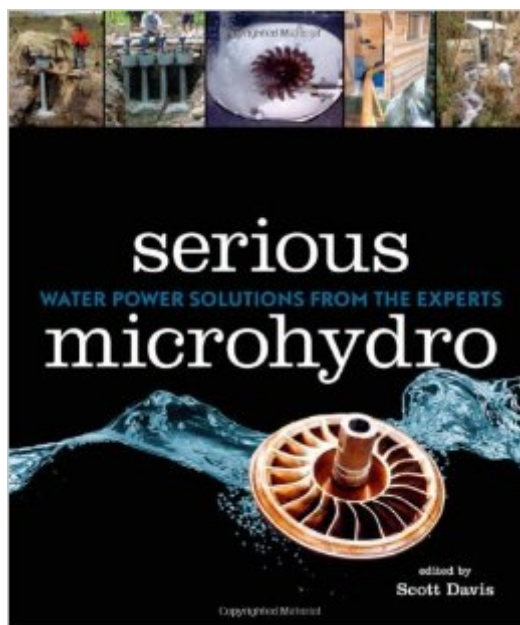


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Serious Microhydro: Water Power Solutions From The Experts



Synopsis

Waterpower is the largest source of renewable energy in the world today, and microhydro is a mature, proven technology that can provide clean, inexpensive, renewable energy with little or no impact on the environment. *Serious Microhydro* brings you dozens of firsthand stories of energy independence covering a complete range of systems, from household pressure sites to higher pressure installations capable of powering a farm, business, or small neighborhood. Topics include: Low head and medium head sites AC-only systems as well as ones using a battery/inverter subsystem Stand alone power supply or grid intertie setups Hybrid systems (combined with photovoltaics or wind) With all the variables involved in microhydro, there is no "typical" system. These case studies represent the most comprehensive collection of knowledge and experience available for tailoring an installation to meet the needs of a site and its owner or operators. If you are considering building a system, you are bound to find a wealth of creative solutions appropriate to your own circumstances. *Serious Microhydro* shows how scores of people are achieving a high standard of living from local energy sources with a minimal ecological footprint. It has particular appeal to homeowners, teachers, renewable energy professionals, activists, and decision makers who want to understand the technology from a "hands-on" perspective. Scott Davis is an award-winning renewable energy project developer with decades of experience operating, installing, designing, selling, and teaching microhydro technology. He is a founder and president of Friends of Renewable Energy BC, and the author of *Microhydro: Clean Power From Water*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I stopped reading this book at about page 200. I found it a disappointment. It's basically a collection of reprinted articles from Home Power, mostly from the 1990s. I'm a fairly intelligent fellow living in the Ozarks so I already had a pretty good common sense idea of how hydroelectric works, after all I have seen a few commercial power plant dams at our local lakes. What I didn't know was some of the terminology of the field directly relating to the turbines and generators, I have a strong electronic background already. I was looking for some relevant data such as brands, companies, and contacts. What this book offers in this area can be found by searching the back of the book, and that info is from the 1990s. Yes, the 1990s. While water, gravity, and electromagnetism haven't changed since then, electronics have and make no mistake, an alternative energy system isn't squat without electronics. While all the stories are inspiring, that's about all they are. (Maybe that's all they were supposed to be.) This book contains a lot of dry info reciting brands and models of equipment, boxes, panels, controllers, inverters, batteries, and turbines etc., that were available at the time the story writer built his or her system. As to the money, you need lots. Whether it's worth it or not is up to the souls involved and what it is they want from microhydro. If you want to feel good about your energy source, your personal microhydro plant would undoubtedly help you sleep better. The real cost savings would happen ONLY IF you're building your castle on land that is well, a mile or more, off of the beaten path away from existing utilities. Then a properly designed system could rock, assuming the "global warming" farce doesn't leave your locale drought stricken.

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