

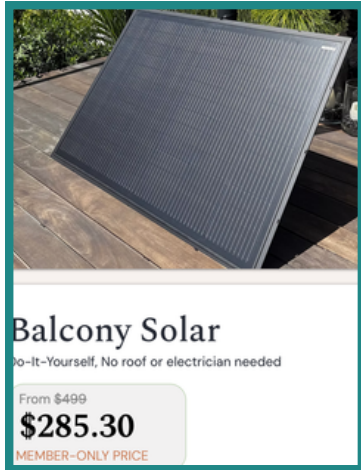
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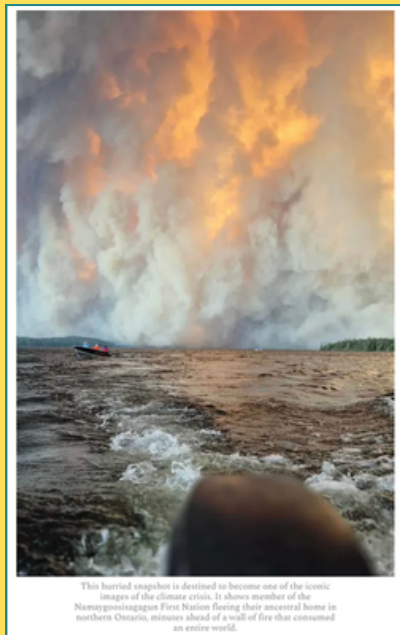
and Instagram



The Good News



As more and more states approve the modest balcony solar panels that can shave a bit of money off utility bills, the question arises about availability of the panels themselves. Luckily, the non-profit **Bright Saver**, which has championed these panels from the start, is setting up a member service (a la Costco or REI) to get the panels out to the public at a reasonable costs. Luckily, this comes at a good time as it seems likely that balcony solar panel approval will be included in the next climate bill due out of the Massachusetts Legislature around the New Year. A panel can produce up to 1 kWh/day, enough to run an oven for 30 min. or a dishwasher for 1 hr.



The Tough News

This photo is from Bill McKibben's substack blog called *The Crucial Years*. It shows members of a Canadian First Nations community, the Namaygoosisagagun of northern Ontario, fleeing in boats as a massive wildfire engulfs their village. We could substitute photos from Minnesota or the American west. What does this mean? Yes, poor air quality at times. But Julee Boan of the National Resources Defense Council and resident of Hudson Bay, Canada, makes 3 observations in a recent **Guardian** article. First, "We are living in a few era of fire . . ." He writes that answers and solutions can only come after acknowledging the realities "we keep refusing to face." His goals? "Prepare our communities, cut the emissions, fund the people who fight and study these fires. The smoke is telling us where the real work is. It is at our doorsteps, and in our climate policy, not deep in the woods."



The In-Between News

Extreme events are in our lives now and into the future. Drought, heat, deluges, fire, and more. On a positive note, there are businesses and organizations working hard to help people become more resilient. Thanks to Debra Rienstra's substack, *Refugia Newsletter*, for highlighting emergency beehives! Not actual hives, but mobile trucks fitted with solar panels called **Beehive Micro-grids**. Trucks focus on power, water, or refrigeration, going where communities have suffered disaster & staying up to five years.