



City of Chula Vista Portable Battery Product Handbook - **EcoFlow River 3**

For Community Members



Program Information

The City of Chula Vista is introducing a portable solar panel and battery lending program for community members to utilize clean, portable power on go! This pilot program was funded with a grant from San Diego Community Power with the goal of increasing the usage of clean energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

If you would like to learn more about the battery you checked out, please review the product information in this handbook. Please note that you will be responsible for costs associated with loss or damage. The estimated replacement value of the River 3 battery is \$299. The City of Chula Vista does not support or endorse the product brand and encourages you to review multiple manufactures when looking to buy a portable battery.

If you have questions about checking out a portable battery, please contact:

- Civic Center Branch – (619) 691-5069
- South Branch - (619) 585-5755
- Otay Ranch Branch - (619) 397-5740


If you have questions about operating the portable battery or solar panels, or about the program itself, please contact:

- The City of Chula Vista's Conservation team at (619) 409-3893 or conservation@chulavistaca.gov

Scan the QR code or follow the hyperlink to view the [EcoFlow River 3](#) manual on EcoFlow's website.



EcoFlow River 3 300-Watt Portable Battery

Product Name	Weight (lbs.)	Size	Energy Capacity	Estimated Replacement Value	More information
River 3	7.8	10 x 8.3 x 4.4	245Wh Capacity 300W Output	\$299	Weblink 

This portable battery can be used to power devices away from power outlets or be paired with a solar panel to create its own clean free energy. Since the River 3 batteries have a 300-watt output limit, they will be best suited to power smaller devices like the devices listed in the table below, such as charging phones, laptops, or powering a fan.

Potential Use	Watts	River 3
Phone Charge	1-20	19 Charges
Light	10	20 hours
Fan	35	7 hours
Laptop Charge	30 - 70	3-6 hours
Mini Fridge	50	3-6 hours
Air Pump	120	1.7 hours

Safety Tips and FAQ

Safety Tips

- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Connect batteries correctly to the device.
- Only use the charging cord that comes with the device.
- The battery should not be left charging unattended or overnight
- Do not continue charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Follow manufacturer's instructions: Know how to handle, store and charge the battery and what hazards it may pose.
- Do not get the product wet or immerse it in any liquid.

Tips

- Download the EcoFlow app to monitor battery usage on your phone.
- Recharge the battery when finished using so it is ready for the next use.
 - You can recharge the River 3 battery with EcoFlow solar panels and create your own clean and free energy and lower the cost of operating the battery. To check out a solar panel please visit: www.chulavistaca.gov/solar. While the **EcoFlow River 3** battery can accept up to **110W of solar input**, the power your solar panel generates will vary significantly with the available sunlight and its orientation to the sun.
 - You can also charge the battery via an outlet in your home or in your car while you're on the go.
- These batteries may automatically shut off when powering devices with very low power consumption. To restore power, turn the outlet back on.
- To boil water consider using USB powered devices that use less energy than traditional electric tea kettles.
- Electricity grid usage and rates you pay for electricity are the highest between 4 PM and 9 PM. Using the battery to power devices at home and avoiding recharging the battery between those times can maximize bill savings. For more energy saving tips, please visit: <https://sdcommunitypower.org/education/energy-saving-tips>.

Safety Tips and FAQ Continued

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) **What happens if the device plugged into the battery draws more energy than the battery can provide?**
 - a) The AC or DC outlet in use will automatically be turned off.
- 2) **Is it ok to use the battery until it is at 0%?**
 - a) Yes, the charge for the batteries can be fully used and stored at 0% for a short period of time but should be charged to 60% if left for more than 48 hours.
- 3) **How can I clean the device?**
 - a) Never open or take apart the device. To clean the exterior, use a soft, dry cloth to wipe and clean.
- 4) **Is it ok if I hear the fan running?**
 - a) Yes, the fan runs when needed to cool the battery.
- 5) **How much solar energy can this device charge with?**
 - a) This device has a maximum solar input of 220 watts. While a larger solar panel can be used in less-than-ideal sunlight (e.g., cloudy conditions or indirect angles), monitor the power output to ensure it never exceeds 220 watts.
- 6) **I plugged in my device and the EcoFlow battery is on, but my device is not doing anything. What do I do?**
 - a) Ensure that the outlet is on. To turn on or activate the outlet you want to use, press the AC on/off or DC on/off buttons, where the arrows are pointing in the photo below.



Additional Resources

Chula Vista Community Shuttle -

www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/clean/residents/communityshuttle - A free electric vehicle shuttle for residents 55 or older within the northwest Chula Vista service territory.

San Diego Community Power's Electrify Your Life -

<https://sdcommunitypower.org/education/electrify-your-life> - Information about how to electrify your house including product information, rebates, and local contractors that can do the work.

The Switch is On - <https://switchison.org> - Information about how to electrify your house including product information, rebates, and local contractors that can do the work.

Federal Tax Credits - www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/clean-vehicle-and-energy-credits - Take advantage of tax credits for EV, energy efficient appliances like heat pumps, solar, and batteries.

GRID Alternatives - <https://gridalternatives.org/what-we-do/energy-for-all> - Provides no-cost solar installations for low-income houses in qualifying areas of Chula Vista.

Golden State Rebates - <https://goldenstaterebates.clearesult.com> - Provides statewide rebates for qualifying high efficiency air conditioners, water heaters, and smart thermostats.

Free Food Waste Kitchen Caddy -

<http://www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/clean/environmental-services/residential-organic-waste-recycling> - Information about how to get a free food waste kitchen caddy for any Chula Vista resident.

SDG&E Information for Electric Vehicles - www.sdge.com/residential/lovelectric -

Learn about models of electric vehicles, tax credits and incentives, and the best rate to use when charging.

Experience Survey

This battery lending program is a pilot and City staff would like to learn more about your experience with the portable batteries and solar panels. After you use the battery and/or the solar panel, please fill out this quick 5-minute survey to help us learn more about how you used the devices. Follow the link below or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Experience survey: <https://forms.office.com/g/p3VLxjDgL1>



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Thank you!

