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Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the pool?

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Posted by [offthedeepend](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Dec 5, 07 at 18:11

I stumbled upon this website www.solarattic.com and thought it was quite interesting and would lend itself good in my situation...i have big hip roofs and i know when they were re doing my a/c last summer it was 135-140 degrees up there. Was wondering if anyone tried this?

Follow-Up Postings:

★ RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p

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- Posted by [wbeatty](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Dec 6, 07 at 10:26


What a cool idea. a heat exchanger in the attic.

★ RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p

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- Posted by [joanneswimsct](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Dec 6, 07 at 22:31

Hi offthedeepend
 I seem to remember a thread from back in the summer re attic heat exchangers. I have no idea how to provide the link but if you do a search you should find it.
 Good luck!
 Joanneswimsct

 **RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p**

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- Posted by [stephenchs1984](#) ([My Page](#)) on Mon, Dec 10, 07 at 14:10

My friend in Thousand Oaks, CA has used one for over 10 years and loves it. He's never had any issues with the heater always brags about it when I go visit him. I don't have a pool so I don't need one

 **RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p**

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- Posted by [mitchcarnie](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Dec 12, 07 at 23:28

A friend I work with in Sacramento had one in his last pool and said it did not work for him. I had researched it before I bought my solar panels.

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- Posted by [fisolarsystems](#) ([My Page](#)) on Wed, Feb 6, 08 at 18:15

Yes I have the PCS1 from solar attic. Works fantastic I have used it for 7 years I have referred at least 20 people to them. I know of at least 4 of them purchased and love it too. If you would like you can email me. evidently it keeps my pool around 89-92 degrees

 **RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p**

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- Posted by [tresw](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 10:47

Excuse me for being skeptical, but...

- 1) This is your one and only post on these forums.
- 2) You have 20 friends that have swimming pools and were all interested in heaters? Seems a little far-fetched.

Now I read up on this heater a few weeks ago and really love the sales pitch on

it. It certainly SOUNDS good, heat your pool and cool your attic at the same time. But despite doing a lot of digging on the internet, the only customer comments I could find were either in this thread or on the manufacturer's web site. Of course we can't depend on comments on any manufacturer's web site, so that leaves this thread. Two comments, one for and one against. A 3rd comment that I suspect is a plant. I think what the manufacturer needs to do (assuming the heater really does work effectively) is offer some really deep discounts to get some of these out there to people, then encourage those people to spread the word on the internet.



RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p

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- Posted by [bf-tx](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 11:15

I am in the process of building a pool here in Houston. I looked into these units and decided the cost was not worth the gain.

Finally no rain, perhaps I will be getting my deck Friday.

My house being new has radiant barrier installed under sheathing and there are ridge vents. Having experienced the long summer of August to October in my house, the temp gains were not sufficient enough to heat the pool. Based on my required attic air changes through this coil, the cost of electric to run the fan and the increased load/current requirement of a pump to get the water up 2.5 stories exceeded the benefit. Add in the factor that at these hottest times I don't wish to be heating the pool anyways. Take today for instance, high of 65 out, my pool could have used heat but, my attic will only reach about 75 tops. Not enough to gain anything there. Besides that the cost of equipment, the install for me is cost prohibitive being that I should remove the radiant barrier, ridge vents and install powered attic fans to exhaust warm air when heat exchanger is not running or needed.

With some thought, my money would be better spent on putting 250'+ of continuous 2" Sch 80 PVC (grey) on top of my fence sandwiched between the cedar pickets, making it virtually invisible and gaining heat from my homemade solar loop. (HOA doesn't allow visible solar panels.)



RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p


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- Posted by [flsolarsystems](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 14:17

Tres,

I said I referred the pool heater to at least 20 people in seven years that's not hard to do and yes 4 people (friends) own the system too. It seems your pretty hostile towards this unit. It was asked if anyone knows about the system and 7 years of

use qualifies me to make a statement. " I am a very satisfied user"

 **RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p**

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- Posted by [tresw](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 14:29

Quote: "Add in the factor that at these hottest times I don't wish to be heating the pool anyways. Take today for instance, high of 65 out, my pool could have used heat but, my attic will only reach about 75 tops."

That is one of my concerns as well. The times that we would really be interested in heating the pool are the same times that the attic temps are not high enough to effectively transfer any heat. Our attic is vented and decked. No radiant barrier, but when it's cool outside it's cool up there too.

Quote: "(HOA doesn't allow visible solar panels.)"

You can expect that to change very soon. HOA's are going to get overruled by state and federal laws at some point when it comes to energy conservation. In fact, someone recently posted in another thread here that their HOA prohibited solar panels, but a new Florida law overrode the HOA and they are indeed installing them now.

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- Posted by [jamessolarattic](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 14:59

All I have to say is wow nice discussion on our pool heater. I was invited here from flsol in this forum.

I would like to address a couple of concerns about this heater if I may.

1st It will not work in all applications meaning if your attic has no to low heat they PCS2 will not work and I advise using something else.

2nd Cost effectiveness our national average pay back for customers has been around 18-24 months. It's life design is 20 Years

3rd HOA restrictions. Some state laws forbid HOA to ban solar panels installations. However if you read the fine print the HOA have a right to deny installations of panels that are visible to the common traffic areas or any roof line sloping down were the panels are visible to the streets.

4th Solar is not a year round heat source you will need something else o provide heat in the winter months.

5th There is no doubt that there are cheaper types of solar pool heating systems. I would say they are the experts on their product line and know what their systems are worth.

Here is a link that might be useful: [SolarAttic World Headquarters](#)

RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p

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- Posted by [tresw](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 16:02

Quote: "It seems your pretty hostile towards this unit. It was asked if anyone knows about the system and 7 years of use qualifies me to make a statement. " I am a very satisfied user"

I'm hostile towards this unit? Read my posts again. I think I pretty clearly stated that I myself am interested in this unit and bothered to research it. I even contacted the manufacturer and got a price on it. In fact if you ping my posts you will find additional comments I've made in other threads about the potential benefits of this. My biggest concern is a lack of feedback from actual owners, and excuse me but I'm still not convinced that you are unbiased. No offense, but people don't just fall out of the sky with zero posts and revive months-old threads unless they have an ulterior motive. There is absolutely nothing wrong with you guys pushing your products, just don't pretend to be someone you're not.

Other post

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- Posted by [tresw](#) ([My Page](#)) on Thu, Feb 7, 08 at 16:09

I'll save you the trouble of a search, check this thread:

<http://ths.gardenweb.com/forums/load/pools/msg0118515822277.html>

Here's my post from that thread, read it and tell me if you think I'm being hostile towards the product:

Posted by tresw (My Page) on Tue, Jan 15, 08 at 10:19

Huskyenduro, if you're serious about heating your pool then you should consider solar as well. We all know energy isn't getting any cheaper whether it's electric, NG, propane, etc. There are plenty of solar pool heating options out there that'll keep your pool warm and your carbon footprint to a minimum. There's also a rather ingenious attic pool heater available that transfers heat out of your attic to heat your pool water. It's reported to actually reduce your home cooling costs because it reduces the temp inside your attic as well as warming the pool water. This is the one I'm contemplating for my pool. Unfortunately I couldn't find much neutral feedback on it, but the idea is brilliant. More info here:
<http://www.solarattic.com/>

 **RE: Has anyone tried the solar attic heat exchanger to heat the p**

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- Posted by [widebody2](#) ([My Page](#)) on Tue, Jan 13, 09 at 13:48

Hi Guys,

My name is Patrick Kenney. I own and operate a swimming pool service out on the East end of Long Island- [Patrickspools.com](#) and I also own [Longislandsolarpools.com](#) where I sell the solarattic units. My clientele is strictly wealthy Hamptons homeowners who use these homes as a vacation home. My customers are all long term service customers. I install these systems on the homes of my clients.

You can take that for what it is worth. I would not install a system that did not perform well on one of my clients' homes because I would either have to deal with an unhappy customer for years to come or lose them altogether, which is 180 degrees away from my goal.

As long as you have the proper situation, which is clearly outlined on solarattic's website the system does perform. My customers' pools average high 80s for the Summer. take into consideration that is in NY.

Another thing that should be pointed out is that when someone is happy with something they may or may not share that info with others. But you can sure bet that if you spend \$6k to have something installed on your house that simply does not work, that you will be making a stink about it. So search the web for those complaints because they are simply not there. I searched before I became a dealer.

Solarattic has also grown by over 80% in the past year...a year in which we have had a financial meltdown. That does not happen by selling a product that does not perform.

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