



Outdoor Host FAQ

How much will the equipment and installation cost?

The equipment and installation does not cost the host anything.

How long will the equipment be on my property?

The equipment remains in place indefinitely or until the agreement between the PNSN and the host changes.

What if I sell my property or move?

You will have the option to have the equipment removed or offered to the next owner. Please contact the PNSN if you plan to move or sell your property.

How big is the outdoor equipment?

The size varies depending on the type of installation. The solar panel and equipment box is approximately the same footprint as a picnic table. If AC power is available, solar panels are optional. See examples in the accompanying photos.

Where will the equipment go?

The equipment is put outside at a mutually agreed upon place by the host and the PNSN field technicians.

Will the equipment affect my utility bills?

No. Almost all outdoor stations use solar panels. If the site does utilize host-provided power, the amount used is equivalent to a small light bulb.

Do I need internet service to host the equipment?

A high-speed internet connection is strongly preferred. Depending on the type of installation, the PNSN may not use your internet to transmit seismic data.

Will my network be secure?

We work with our hosts to ensure optimized network security. We implement up-to-date industry-standard firewalls and procedures.

How will data affect my internet bill if I provide an internet connection?

Seismic sites use a few GBs of data total per month. This is less than 0.02 Mbps, most home connections are 10 Mbps or more (about 0.2% of a typical home Internet capacity).

What if my electricity or internet goes out? Who do I contact?

If host-provided power or internet is interrupted, the instrument has backup power for at least 4 days. For extended outages, please contact the PNSN.

How long will the initial installation take?

Typically 2 to 4 days.

How sensitive is the equipment?

The equipment will be able to detect very small magnitude earthquakes. Normal daily activities will not trigger the instrument or affect locating an earthquake.

How often will you need access to the equipment?

Ideally, we would visit every five years for back-up battery replacement, or as needed for maintenance. PNSN staff will work with hosts to schedule a convenient time to visit the site.

Will I have access to the data? Can I see the data?

Yes, the seismic data will be displayed on pnsn.org/seismograms.

Who has access to my address and contact information?

Only PNSN staff have your contact information and it will not be shared with others.

What if we need the equipment moved?

We will move the equipment whenever needed. Please contact the PNSN.

Will the equipment interfere with the look of my property?

The PNSN makes every effort to minimize the visual impact of the equipment.

What if the equipment gets damaged?

You are not liable for damage. If you suspect something has happened to the equipment, please contact the PNSN.

Outdoor Installation Examples



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