

A **Community Solar project** is a solar array whose **energy generation is financially divided among multiple participating subscribers.** As a subscriber, you will receive a financial credit on your utility bill for the portion of power generated by the array on your behalf.

Why subscribe and who can participate?

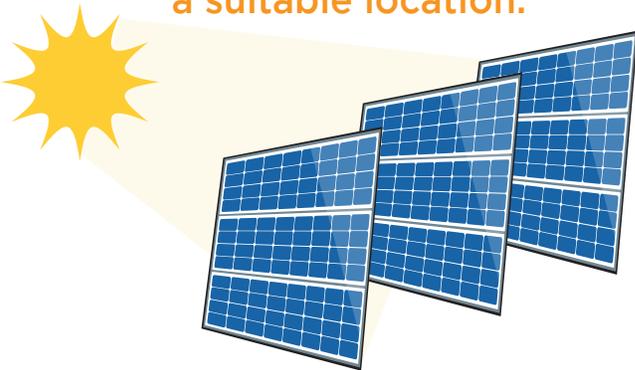
The **benefits of subscribing to a Community Solar project are two-fold: you'll save money and will be supporting New Jersey's transition to cleaner energy.** Your home will not be directly connected to the solar array nor will you receive your personal household energy from its generation. Your subscription finances the array and you financially benefit from the energy generated.

Community Solar is for anyone who wants to benefit from solar energy generation especially those unable to do so on their own. All electric utility customers in New Jersey can participate. This is an ideal opportunity for renters, homeowners with shaded roofs, or anyone else that is unable to install their own solar array to participate and benefit from the generation of renewable energy.

How does it work?

Community Solar projects are large solar arrays that provide a utility bill savings to subscribers in accordance with their subscription size. Your household can subscribe to a project within your utility area for the amount of electricity your home uses. The array's solar panels create electricity every day and feed that power into the grid. You will receive a credit on your bill to reflect profits from the array's generated energy. Typically, after deducting the subscription fee, customers can expect to see a 10% net savings on their electricity bills.

1. A solar array is installed in a suitable location.



2. A home or business subscribes to receive a credit on their utility bill.



3. Each subscriber receives a bill credit on their utility bill for their participation in the project.



DID YOU KNOW

40% of community solar projects installed in NJ must serve low and moderate income households?

Learn more:

sustainableprinceton.org/blog/what-is-community-solar/

How can I subscribe to a community solar project?

A home or business can participate in a community solar project that is in their utility service territory by entering into an agreement with a **subscriber organization**.

The subscriber organization communicates with the utility company to make sure the solar energy is credited to each customer and provides customer support to subscribers. Once the project goes live, subscribers receive two bills: one from the utility company and a separate bill for the community solar subscription.

UTILITY BILL		COMMUNITY SOLAR INVOICE		NET RESULT
Electric Charges - PSE&G	\$100	Community Solar Credits	\$100	You pay \$90 instead of \$100 while supporting a local source of clean energy!
Community Solar Credits	(\$100)	Guaranteed Discount	10%	
TOTAL	\$0	TOTAL	\$90	

The sum of the payments will be less than what you would have paid to PSE&G if you were not participating in the community solar project.

Subscription offers vary. A subscriber can either pay a monthly subscription or purchase a piece of a system upfront. Each project will have its own fees and contract. Be sure you read the contract and understand its specific terms and conditions before signing up. Check out the **Community Solar Subscriber Tip Sheet** for more information on how to select a project.

Why Community Solar?

Community Solar is part of New Jersey's Clean Energy goals because its benefits include:

- Access to local clean energy
- Potential savings on electric bills
- Local jobs and economic development
- Equal access to the economic and environmental benefits of solar energy for homeowners, renters, and businesses
- Expand solar access for low-to-moderate income customers
- A stronger, distributed, and more resilient electric grid

REMEMBER

A more energy-efficient home means more cost-effective solar!

Learn more:

sustainableprinceton.org/your-home/

These materials are made possible by a grant from Sustainable Jersey funded by the Gardinier Environmental Fund



**SUSTAINABLE
PRINCETON.**

For additional information visit:

www.sustainableprinceton.org/blog/what-is-community-solar?/
bit.ly/SustainableJerseyEnergyGuidebooks