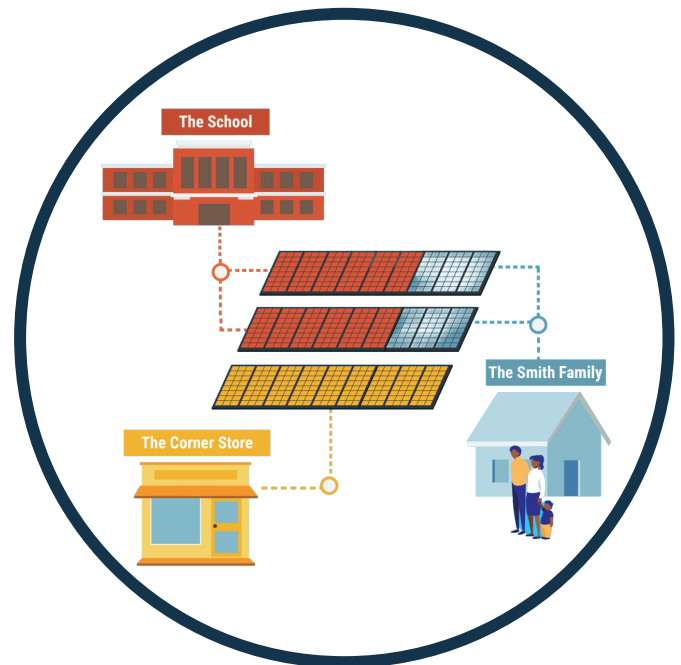


WHAT IS COMMUNITY SOLAR?

Community solar refers to a shared solar energy program where multiple customers, including individuals, businesses, and nonprofits, benefit from the energy produced by a single, off-site solar array. It allows participants to access renewable energy without needing to install panels on their own property.

- **Accessible to All:** Community solar allows you to benefit from solar energy without installing a system where you live. This means you don't need a suitable roof or even own a home to enjoy solar energy benefits.
- **Saves Money:** By joining a community solar project, you can save money on your energy bills. Most subscribers see savings between 5% to 20% of their annual electricity costs.
- **Clean Energy:** Community solar projects install panels in your area—such as fields, rooftops, or parking lots—allowing you to support renewable energy that directly powers your local electrical grid.



HOW DOES COMMUNITY SOLAR WORK?

HOW IT WORKS

- Sign Up for a community solar project in your area.
- Pay a Monthly Fee for your share of the solar energy produced.
- Earn Credits from your utility for the clean energy your share generates.

Step 1

Find a Community Solar Project

Check if community solar is available in your state. Use SUN's Community Solar Directory to explore options near you.

Step 2

Review the Details

Before signing up, ask key questions:

- How long is the contract?
- What are the costs to participate?
- Are there late fees or cancellation fees?
- What happens if you move out of the utility area?

Step 3

Sign Up and Save

Subscribe to a project that works for you. Once the community solar project is operational, you'll start receiving credits on your utility bill for the energy your share produces.

Step 4

Advocate for Change

If community solar isn't available in your state, join efforts to advocate for supportive policies that can bring community solar to your area.



Q: What am I buying with a community solar subscription?

A: Electricity measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh) from a community solar project, usually for a lower, flat fee.



Q: How much of my energy bill will come from solar?

A: Your provider will estimate your energy generation, and it's best to subscribe for up to 100% of your usage. Any excess may be reimbursed at a lower rate.



Q: How much time will it take for me to see savings?

A: Developers need a set number of subscribers before building a community solar project, and it may take a few months from subscribing to see savings.



Q: Will my electric bill be cheaper?

A: It should be! Compare the subscription cost per kWh to your current rate.



Q: How will I know the amount of energy the solar project produces?

A: Providers may offer monitoring access or monthly reports on energy production.



Q: How is the energy I generate from community solar credited to my bill?

A: Your share of the solar farm's energy is credited to your monthly utility bill as a "solar credit." Credit amounts vary by provider and are based on production and usage.

Learn more about community solar near you.

As a vendor-neutral nonprofit, SUN is here to help you find a community solar project that's best for you. Visit our website to learn more about projects near you. If community solar is not yet available in your area, learn more about how you can get involved in SUN's policy movements.

