

# COMMUNITY SOLAR

## Frequently Asked Questions

### WHAT IS SOLSTICE INITIATIVE?

Solstice Initiative is a Massachusetts-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable solar to every household and organization in America.

We focus on identifying community solar projects in which local households and businesses can participate, and helping them enroll. Our programming is centered around community outreach, education, and awareness-building. We believe that good information is the best way to help more folks switch to community solar.

### WHY ARE SO MANY HOUSEHOLDS UNABLE TO ACCESS SOLAR?

Clean energy is more affordable than ever. As it stands, however, approximately 50% of local homes, businesses, and organizations are unable to access it. This includes folks who rent their homes or lease their buildings, have inadequate credit, cannot afford a system, or possess a roof poorly suited for solar.

### IS THERE ANOTHER WAY FOR HOUSEHOLDS TO ACCESS SOLAR?

Yes! The 50% of local homes, businesses, and organizations that cannot install solar on their roof can now switch to clean energy with the help of an extraordinary new approach called community solar.

### WHAT IS COMMUNITY SOLAR?

Under community solar, a local home, business, or organization enrolls in a portion of a shared solar garden located in your town or a surrounding community. The power generated by a member's portion of the solar garden shows up in the form of dollars savings on the member's electricity bill, each and every year.

Think of it like a community garden, but for solar power.

With community solar, any home, business, or organization can sign up for clean energy without any cost or installation required.

Community solar is therefore a powerful solution for the 50% of folks currently locked out of the clean energy market.

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN HOLLISTON?

Solstice and its partners are currently enrolling local households in a local project in Holliston. This project will serve hundreds of local homes and organizations starting in 2016. Any home or organization that has EverSource can participate.

### WHERE DO I COME IN?

You're eligible to sign up today! We are spreading awareness about the solar garden in Holliston because households such as yours are eligible to enroll in the array.

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### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY SOLAR?

First, it allows homes, businesses, and organizations that would not otherwise be able to go solar to participate in clean energy.

Second, community solar is simple. You are not installing anything on your property, so you don't have to worry about crews coming out to your home to inspect your roof.

Third, there is no cost to enroll in the program and you save on your energy costs each and every year, beginning as soon as the array goes live..

### SO I CAN SAVE MONEY ON MY ELECTRICITY BILL?

Yes! Participants in the Holliston solar garden see a guaranteed 10% savings on their electricity bill. For most households, this adds up to about \$200 per year.

### HOW LONG IS THE AGREEMENT I SIGN UP FOR?

Members participate in the solar garden for a period of 20 years.

### CAN I CANCEL THE AGREEMENT?

Yes! If you are planning to move or otherwise need to cancel your agreement, Solstice will work closely with you to find a replacement member in the solar garden. All we ask that you provide us advance notice of six months so that we have ample time to do so.

### AM I SWITCHING UTILITY COMPANIES BY ENROLLING?

Not at all. Your relationship with your electric utility will remain exactly the same, except that you'll now see savings show up in your bill every month. Solstice and its partners take care of the details to make sure this happens.

### CAN MY FRIENDS GET INVOLVED?

Absolutely! Solstice will work closely with you to identify opportunities to get the word out to your friends and the surrounding community.

### SO HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Contact Solstice by e-mail or phone at the information below and we will be glad to speak further with you.

**PHONE** | 508.289.1097

**E-MAIL** | [contact@solsticeinitiative.org](mailto:contact@solsticeinitiative.org)

**WEB** | [www.solsticeinitiative.org](http://www.solsticeinitiative.org)

**MAIL** | 50 Milk Street, 17th Floor, Boston, MA 02109

We look forward to hearing from you!