



Announcing the NJ Community Solar Project Finder!

March 8, 2023

Agenda

1. Community Solar Basics
2. New Jersey's Community Solar Program
Sawyer Morgan, Division of Clean Energy
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
3. Demonstration of New Jersey
Community Solar Project Finder
4. Overview of Sustainable Jersey
Community Solar resources
5. Q and A



Introducing Sustainable Jersey

- **Certification program** for municipalities and schools in New Jersey
- **Tools, resources, and guidance** to help municipalities and schools become more sustainable
- **Grants and funding** for municipalities and schools
- **Regional Hubs**



Statistics

2009
Program
Started

82%
Participating

91%
Population



130
Certified



69
Certified



4 Stars

15,735
Actions
Implemented



Statistics current as of 3/3/23

Participants Map Search

Find examples of documentation from certified towns and connect with municipal green teams

www.sustainablejersey.com/certification/search-participating-municipalities-approved-actions

Search by action

By Certified Action

Animals in the Community

- Animals in the Community Education
- Companion Animal Management Pledge
- Companion Animal Management Plan
- Enhanced Licensing Compliance
- Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan
- Wildlife Interaction Plan

View certified towns approved for that action

MUNICIPALITY	COUNTY	CERTIFICATION
Bernardsville Boro	Somerset	BRONZE
Cape May City	Cape May	SILVER
Chesterfield Twp	Burlington	BRONZE
East Brunswick Twp	Middlesex	SILVER
Hillsborough Twp	Somerset	SILVER
Oradell Boro	Bergen	SILVER
Princeton	Mercer	SILVER
Readington Twp	Hunterdon	SILVER
Sea Bright Boro	Monmouth	BRONZE

View certification report for example documentation

Chesterfield Twp
Certification Level: Bronze
Certified On: October 18, 2021
Total Points: 155
Certification Report: [View Report](#)
Applicant Profile: [View Profile](#)



Community Solar Basics

What is Community Solar?



The image above demonstrates how solar generation from a large solar array can be shared between multiple electrical accounts.

Original Image: NJBPU. 2021. Perth Amboy Community Solar Project; overlaid with example subscriber types.

Large solar installation with multiple subscribers

- Provides benefits of solar to those who are not able to install solar (renter, shade, cost)
- Each subscriber receives billing credits for section of larger solar array

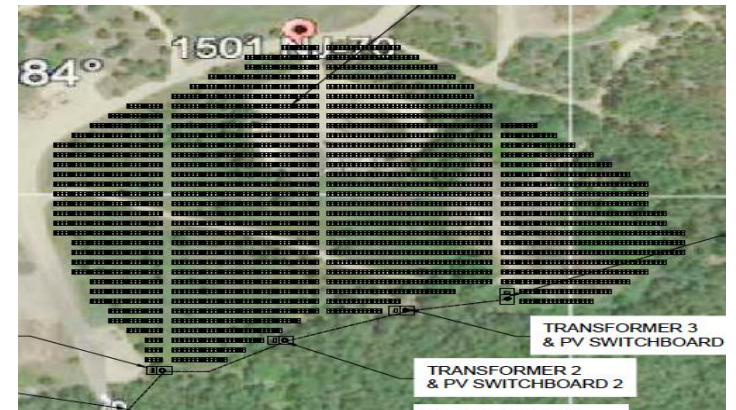
Benefits of Community Solar

- Expands access to solar
- Energy savings for subscribers
- Local generation of clean energy
- Local job creation/workforce development
- Creating positive development on difficult sites, such as brownfields and landfills
- Reduction of municipal emissions

For more about municipal roles in community solar, check out a [recording](#) of Sustainable Jersey's Case Studies from New Jersey's Community Solar Energy Pilot Program Year 1 webinar.



Planning drawing from community solar project on Perth Amboy commercial building



Planning drawing from Manchester Landfill Community Solar Project

Subscribing to a Project

STEP 1

Potential subscriber picks community solar project to subscribe to

STEP 2

Subscriber receives a community solar billing credit on their electric bill

STEP 3

Subscriber receives separate bill for community solar subscription fee

* Percentage of the community solar billing credit retained by customer as a savings.

This month's charges and credits

Gas charges - PSE&G	\$12.56
Plus Electric charges - PSE&G	\$192.36
Plus WorryFree Protection Plan charge - see page 5 for details	\$19.38
Plus Community Solar Credit - see page 5 for details	-\$115.57
This month's charges and credits	\$138.73
Total amount due by Mar 7, 2018	\$138.73

Example above is excerpted from sample [PSE&G residential bill](#) showing community solar billing credit.

EXAMPLE COMMUNITY SOLAR INVOICE

Community Solar billing credit from electric bill	\$100
% of the billing credit retained by the customer, in this example 20%.*	-\$20
Fee for Community Solar Subscription	\$80

How Much Can Residents Save?

- Most community solar subscriptions structured to result in 10 - 30% savings
- Many projects offer low- and moderate-income residents higher percentage of savings

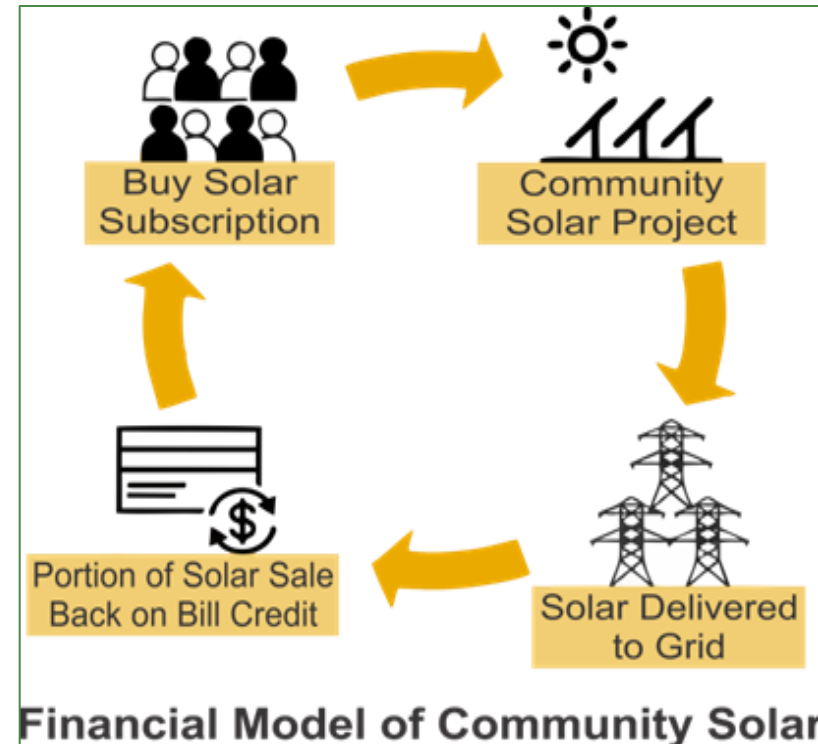
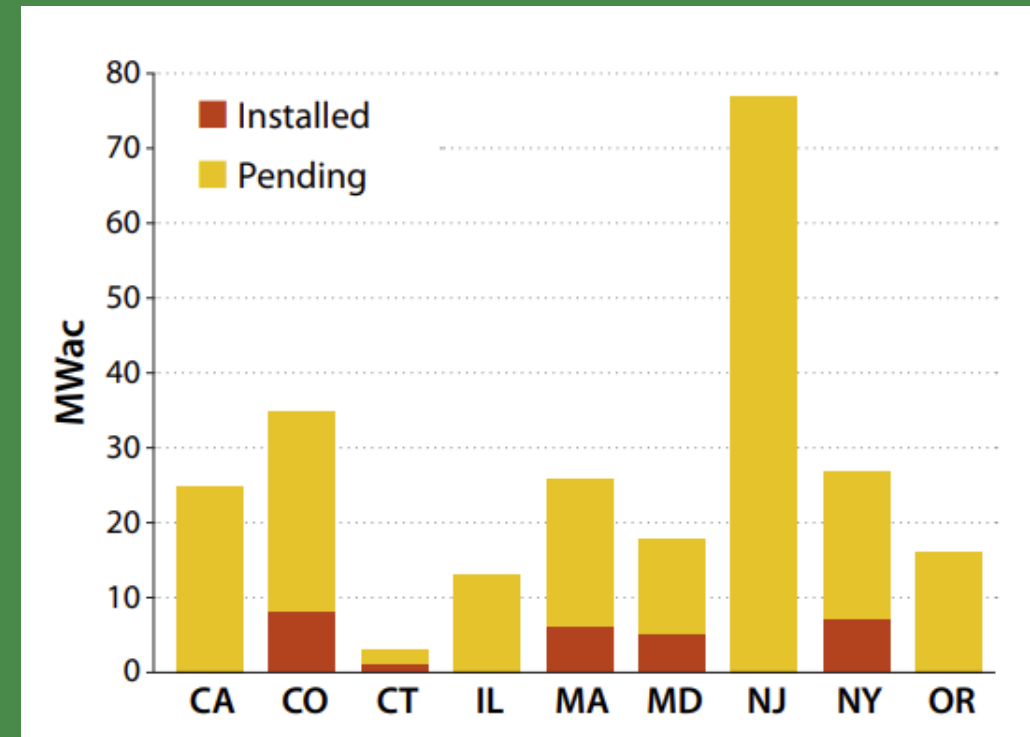


Image provided by [NJCEP](#)

New Jersey's Community Solar Program

Sawyer Morgan, Ph.D.
Research Scientist, Division of Clean Energy
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

LMI dedicated community solar capacity by state as of 2020



NREL. 2021. *Equitable Access to Community Solar: Program Design and Subscription Considerations*.
<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy21osti/79548.pdf>



Current Projects

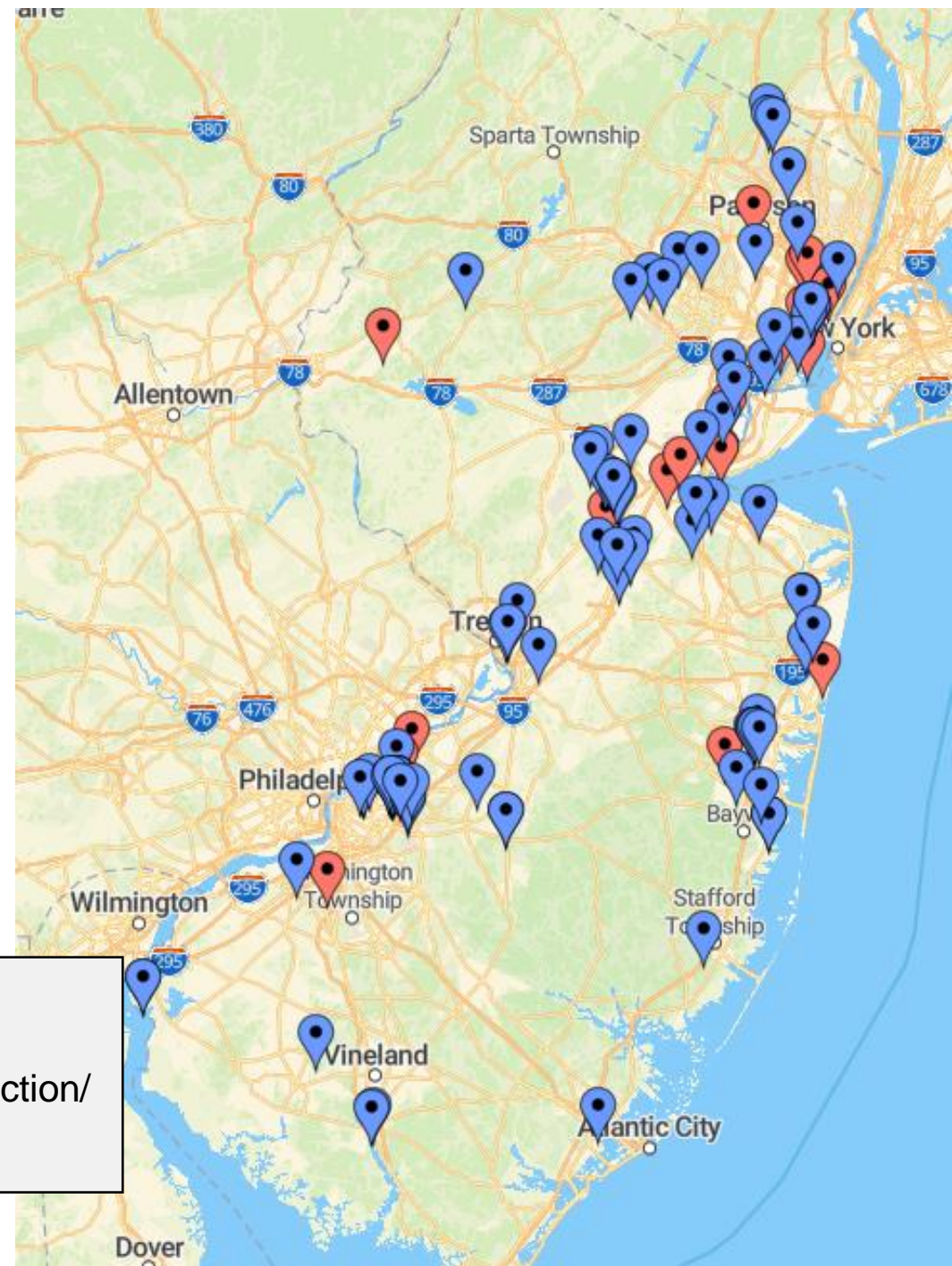
Approved and completed projects in New Jersey's Community Solar Program (locations are approximate)

See the interactive map at SustainableJersey.com/communitysolar

Map of Planned and Built Community Solar Projects in New Jersey

Map data from New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

	Active
	Under Construction/ Planning





Tour of the New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder

About the CS Project Finder

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities partnered with Sustainable Jersey to develop the New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder.



CS Project Finder Tour

New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder includes:

- Overview of New Jersey Community Solar Program
- Database of project accepting subscribers
- Community solar FAQs

SustainableJersey.com/communitysolar



The screenshot shows the 'New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder' interface. At the top left is the logo for the BPU New Jersey's cleanenergy program, featuring a bee. At the top right is the 'Sustainable Jersey Certified' logo with the tagline 'A Better Tomorrow, One Community at a Time'. The main heading is 'New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder'. Below this is a search box with the prompt 'Enter your zip code to see projects serving your community:' and a text input field containing 'Enter a value'. To the right of the search box, there are two paragraphs of text: 'Enter your zip code to see a list of community solar projects that are available in your municipality.' and 'Some zip codes may not overlap perfectly with municipal boundaries. Community solar project sign-ups are by municipality, please check the chart to verify your eligibility.' Below this is another paragraph: 'Community solar subscribers can only subscribe to a project located in their electric utility service territory.' A link is provided: 'Not sure what some of the terms included in the chart below mean? See the [glossary of common community solar terms.](#)' Below the text is a table with the following columns: Project Name, Subscriber Organization, Project Description, Link to Project Website, Date Project Operational, Eligibility Requirements, Estimated Percent Customer Savings*, Subscription Contract Terms, Electric Utility Service Territory, and Municipalities Served by Project.

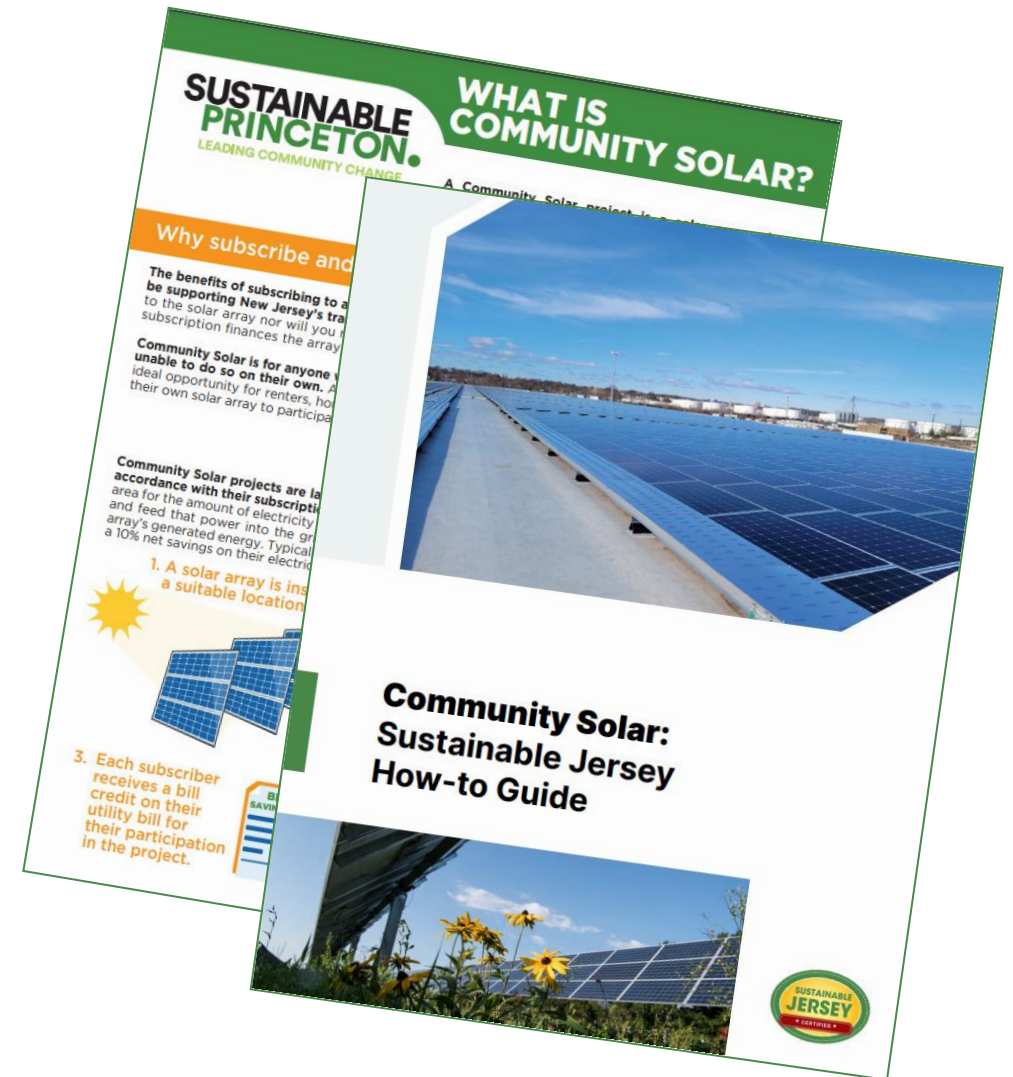
Project Name	Subscriber Organization	Project Description	Link to Project Website	Date Project Operational	Eligibility Requirements	Estimated Percent Customer Savings*	Subscription Contract Terms	Electric Utility Service Territory	Municipalities Served by Project
Emerald City Solar	Subscriber Organization: Subscibex LLC	Project Developer: Solar Builder, Inc. Project Description: 3.3 MW Solar array on Sesame Street	Click here for more information and sign up.	projected to be operational 02/25/2023	Credit check required? NO Automated payment required (credit/debit card)? YES Is project open to residents who live in master-metered buildings? YES	All customers 20% LMI customers 25%	Subscription contract length: 1 year Deposit or subscription fee: None Is there a fee to leave project during contract period? No fee to leave the project with 30-day notice Does percentage of savings change over life of contract? NO	Atlantic City Electric	Emerald City, West Emerald City
Good Guys Solar for All	Subscriber Organization: Subscibex LLC	Project Developer: Solar Builder, Inc. Project Description: 2.3 MW Solar array on Emerald City Brownfield Site	Click here for more information and sign up.	operational since 1/1/2023	Credit check required? NO Automated payment required (credit/debit card)? YES Is project open to residents who live in master-metered buildings? NO	All customers 15% LMI customers 20% Emerald City Seniors 20%	Subscription contract length: 2 years Deposit or subscription fee: None Is there a fee to leave project during contract period? No fee to leave the project with 30-day notice Does percentage of savings change over life of contract? NO	PSE&G	Emerald City, South Gotham
Gotham Solar Project			Click here for more	operational since 7/1/2022	Credit check required? YES	All customers 10%	Subscription contract length: 2 years	PSE&G	Gotham, South Gotham



Sustainable Jersey Community Solar Resources

Community Solar Resources

- Sustainable Jersey Community Solar How-To Guide
- Sustainable Jersey Certification Program action-Municipally Supported Community Solar
- Sustainable Princeton
 - Community Solar Factsheet
 - Subscriber Tip Sheet



All resources can be found at [sustainablejersey.com/fileadmin/media/Actions_and_Certification/Actions/Energy/Community Solar Resources.pdf](https://sustainablejersey.com/fileadmin/media/Actions_and_Certification/Actions/Energy/Community_Solar_Resources.pdf)

Sustainable Jersey Underwriters and Sponsors

Program Underwriters



Grant Program Underwriters



Corporate Sponsors





Sustainable Jersey Energy Technical Assistance

Sustainable Jersey Staff can help your municipality or school district with:

- Energy Tracking and Management
- Applying for Local Government Energy Audits (LGEAs)
- Applying for State and utility energy efficiency incentives
- Applying for NJCEP's Energy Savings Improvement Program

Email info@sustainablejersey.com
to learn about current technical
assistance options open to your
school or municipality.

Upcoming Opportunities

Sustainable Jersey-PSE&G Energy Efficiency Partnership Program "Drop-in" Sessions

- Mar 15, 2023, 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
- Mar 17, 2023, 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM
- Mar 21, 2023, 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

sustainablejersey.com/grants/sj-pseg-partnership-program/

2023 NJ Sustainability Summit

May 5th at Bell Works, in Holmdel, NJ

bit.ly/SustainabilitySummit-23





Thank You

Tracey Woods - woodst@tcnj.edu