



Community solar United States

What is community solar?

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) defines community solar as any solar project or purchasing program, within a geographic area, in which the benefits of a solar project flow to multiple customers such as individuals, businesses, nonprofits, and other groups.

What is the national community solar partnership?

The U.S. Department of Energy's National Community Solar Partnership tracks progress toward the goal of expanding access to affordable community solar to every household in the United States. One of the ways this is accomplished is by gathering and analyzing community solar project data in three categories:

How many states have community solar?

As of 2024, community solar programs of some sort are available in 41 states and Washington, D.C. However, availability still requires participation from individual local utilities in many cases. Can you make money with community solar?

What are the benefits of community solar?

Meaningful benefits of community solar, as defined by DOE, including equitable access and consumer protections, meaningful household savings, increased resilience, community-led economic development, and solar workforce development.

How many community solar projects are there in 2024?

The Solar Energy Industries Association estimates 6.5 gigawatts of community solar have been installed in the US as of the first quarter of 2024. These projects are spread across 41 states and Washington, DC, with 19 states and DC implementing official policies and programs to encourage more community solar.

How does community solar work?

Community solar subscribers typically receive a monthly bill credit for electricity generated by their share of the solar PV system, as if the system were located on their premises. Community solar arrangements allow customers to enjoy advantages of solar energy without having to install their own solar energy systems.

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Community solar provides direct access to the renewable energy to customers who cannot install it themselves. [2] Companies, cooperatives, governments or non-profits operate the systems. [3] As of 2021, there were 39 U.S. states with ...

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Community solar picks up where traditional rooftop solar fails. Through community solar, individuals subscribe to a portion of a nearby solar garden and get credits on their energy bill for the electricity it produces. This way, people without the financial means for solar on their rooftops and people who don't own suitable rooftops can still ...

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Community solar is a form of solar energy generation that allows community members of all types to access meaningful benefits of renewable energy, such as reducing household energy costs. Community solar programs make solar more accessible to all U.S. households, particularly to those with low-to-moderate incomes, renters, and other community ...

Our technical potential estimation suggests that community solar could conceivably serve 53.2 million households and 311,750 businesses that cannot access behind-the-meter solar in the United States. In practice, market, economic, and policy constraints mean that the actual number

Community solar provides direct access to the renewable energy to customers who cannot install it themselves. [2] Companies, cooperatives, governments or non-profits operate the systems. [3] As of 2021, there were 39 U.S. states with at least one community solar project. [4]

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