



# WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN?

**Community Solar Gardens are centrally-located solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that provide electricity to participating subscribers. Could it work for you?**

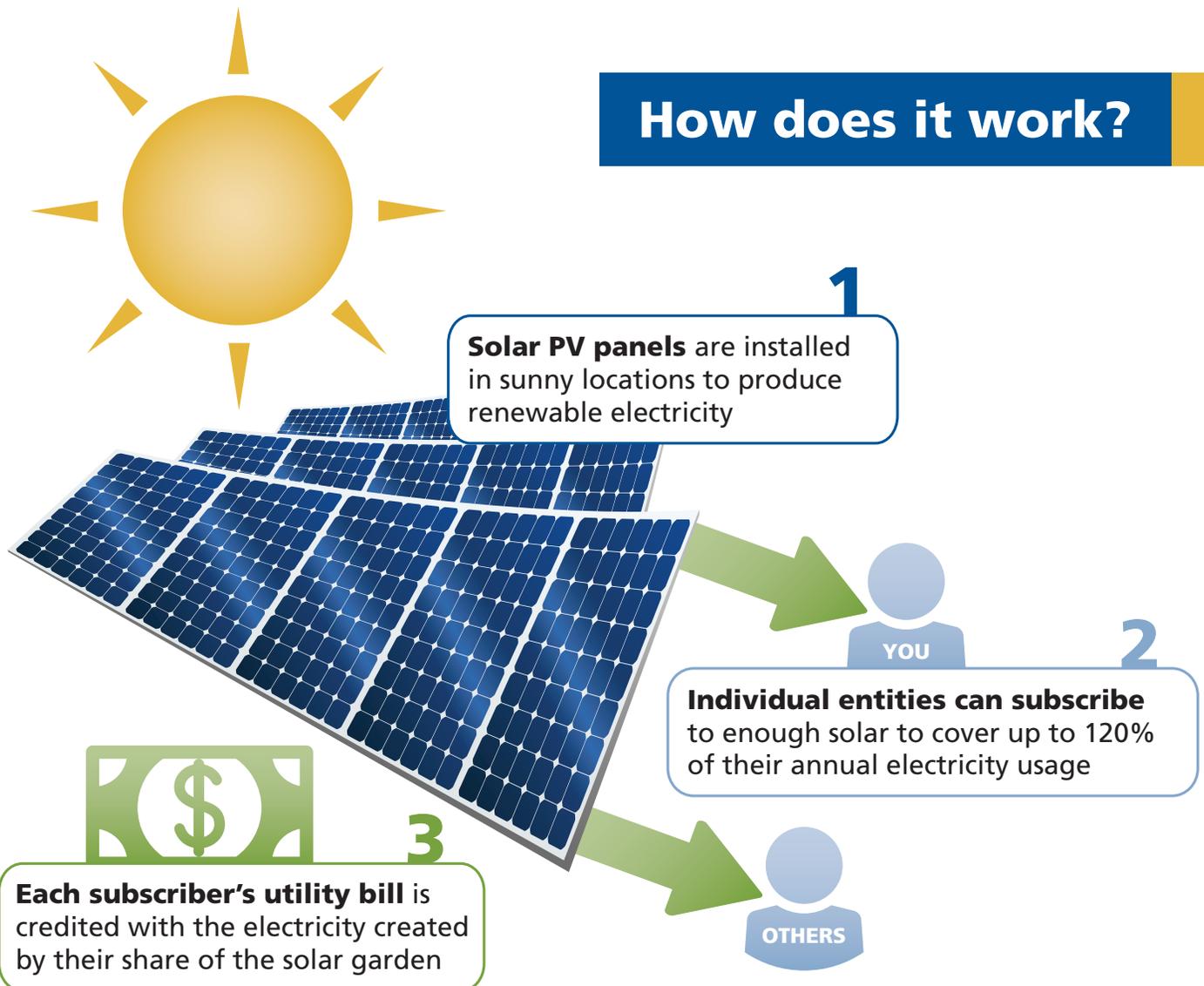
## Q Who is it for & why would I do it?

**Are you interested in going solar but unable to do so on your own?** Perhaps you live in an apartment, have a shaded roof at home, or don't have space at your organization. Now you can join a community solar garden installed near you!

**Community solar gardens are a simple way to go solar.** You purchase an up-front subscription, then soak in the rays (much of Minnesota is as sunny as places like Houston, TX and Tallahassee, FL).

## How does it work?

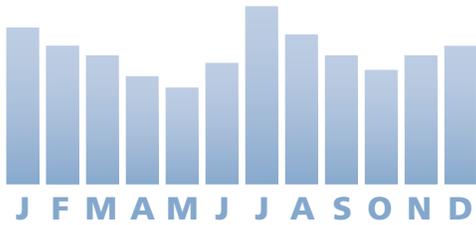
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# Q How much solar should I get?

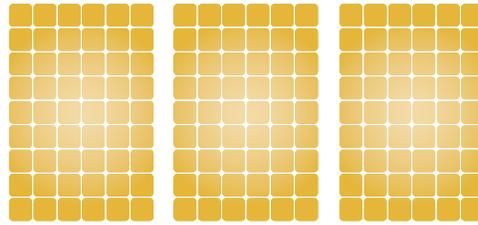
The amount of electricity you use each year helps you decide how much solar to get. Your solar garden subscription can cover up to 120% of your usage. A typical Minnesota home uses 800 kilowatt-hours (kWh) a month. Remember: a more efficient home means more cost-effective solar!

## Electricity Use



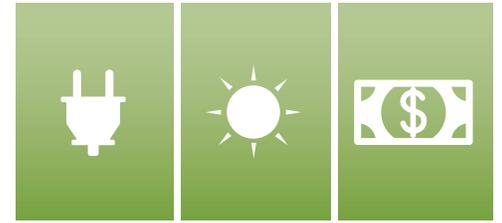
**A typical MN home** uses 800 kWh each month, or 9,600 kWh each year

## Solar Subscription



**4 kW of solar could provide half the electricity** used by the typical MN home

## Utility Bill



**Solar power production** is shown and credited on the subscriber's utility bill

# Q Who is involved in a project?

As a subscriber, you don't have to worry about every detail. See below for key players.



**SUBSCRIBERS:** individual entities who get solar power



**DEVELOPER:** primary group organizing the solar garden



**HOST SITE:** location where solar garden is installed



**FINANCE:** sources of financing for the project



**UTILITY:** electricity provider\* where solar garden is installed



**SITE ASSESSOR:** expert that studies solar garden location



**INSTALLER:** expert that installs the solar garden



**OUTREACH PARTNERS:** groups that find subscribers

\* See more details about utility programs and rules for community solar gardens on our website at [SolarGardens.MnCERTs.org#Who](https://SolarGardens.MnCERTs.org#Who).



Learn more, ask questions & take action:

**SolarGardens.MnCERTs.org**

CERTs: Minnesotans building a clean energy future