

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?

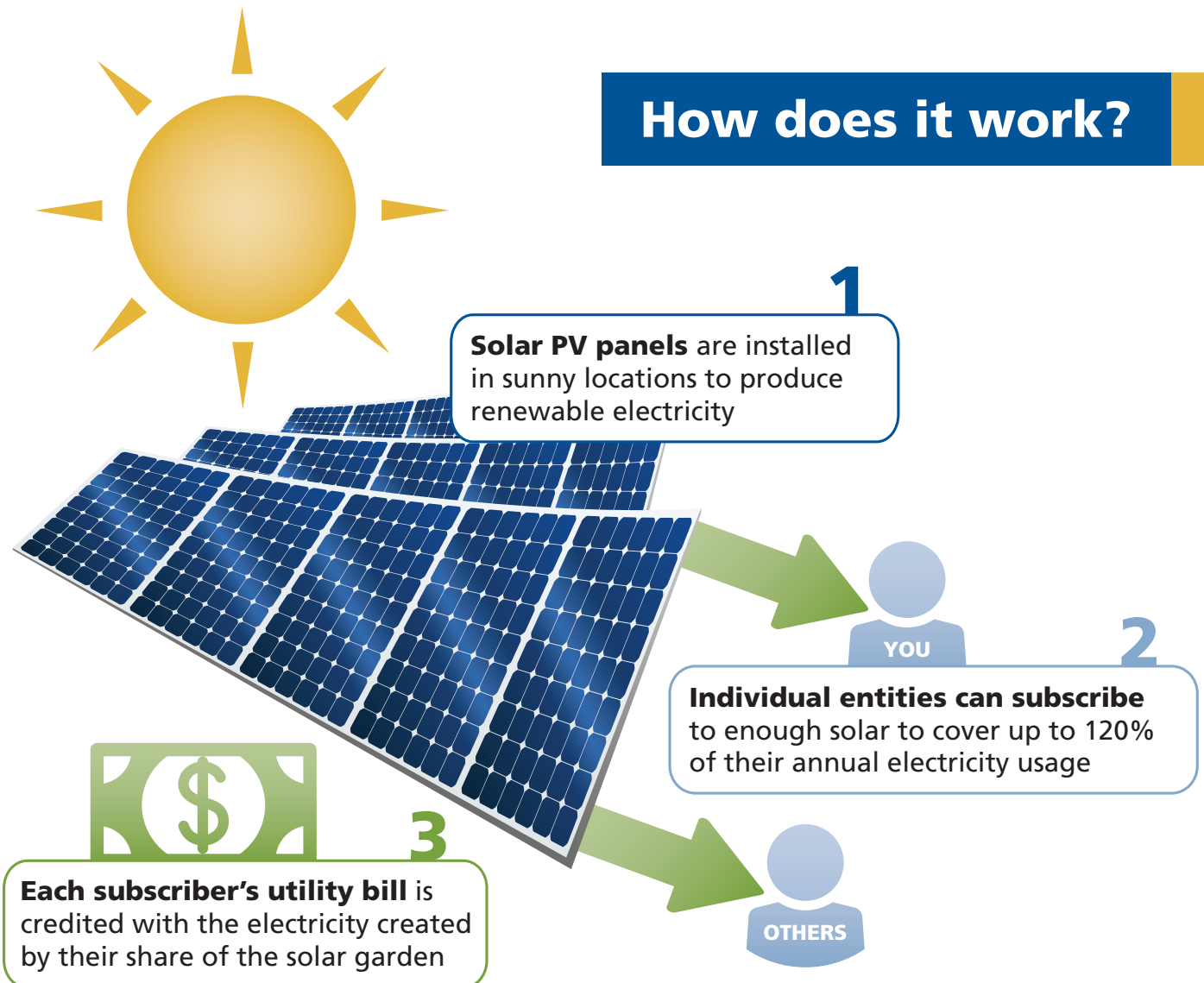
Q Who is it for & why would I do it?

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?

Q



Q How much solar should I get?

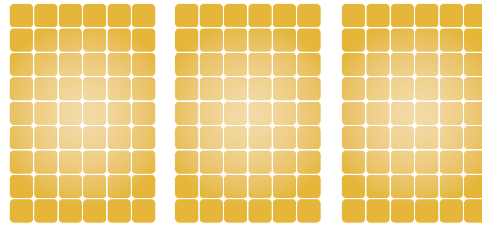
The amount of electricity you use each year helps you decide how much solar to get. Your solar garden subscription can cover up to 120% of your usage. A typical Minnesota home uses 800 kilowatt-hours (kWh) a month. Remember: a more efficient home means more cost-effective solar!

Electricity Use



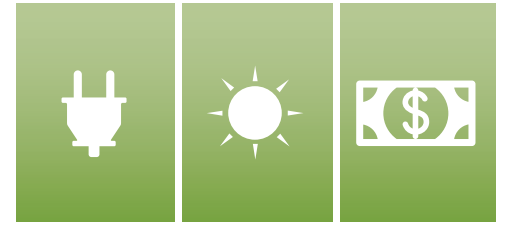
A typical MN home uses 800 kWh each month, or 9,600 kWh each year

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

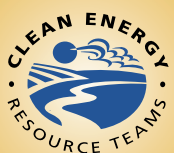


INSTALLER: expert that installs the solar garden



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.



Learn more, ask questions & take action:

SolarGardens.MnCERTs.org

CERTs: Minnesotans building a clean energy future