

## Is Your Community SolSmart?

### What is SolSmart designation?

SolSmart is a program of the U.S. Department of Energy to recognize communities that have made it faster, cheaper, and easier for residents and businesses to go solar. The program provides no-cost technical assistance to local governments to help them reduce barriers to solar energy adoption. Communities earn points and recognition for taking solar friendly steps and can earn Bronze, Silver, or Gold designation.



### Why go for SolSmart designation?

SolSmart activities help a local government act on their sustainability goals and connect to residents and businesses on an issue they care about. Constituents appreciate the proactive approach to removing barriers to solar energy and showing that a local government is “Open for Solar Business.”

### How do we earn SolSmart designation?

You start by demonstrating intent to promote solar energy by registering on the SolSmart website: [www.solsmart.org](http://www.solsmart.org). Once registered, you earn points toward designation by completing activities from a menu of options, in areas of permitting, planning, zoning, development and more. Although the designation does not require installing any solar energy, it ensures that when residents and businesses choose to go solar, the path is clear.



### Who else has done this?

Washington State is home to four SolSmart communities, with more in the pipeline. Bellevue, Edmonds, Mercer Island and Issaquah achieved designation in 2017 with support from Spark Northwest, a regional non-profit.

### How do we get started?

The SolSmart website is your one stop shop for enrollment: [www.solsmart.org](http://www.solsmart.org)