

Recipe's for success

Some hints from Lexington, Cambridge, Brookline, Acton, Newton and Salem about
How to qualify for the Community Solar Challenge bonus program

- **Get the support of the Mayor, Board of Selectman, and School Committee**
Explain the challenge at meetings, and offer them the opportunity to sign up.
- **Integrate the bonus challenge into the school programs**
Get teachers on board, make it a school wide challenge, integrate after school clubs, get the science teachers on board.
- **Determine potential feasible locations for the PV system**
Let residents know the potential outcomes of the challenge and what they are trying to accomplish by contributing. Check out this [website](#) for simple, first step, feasibility information. Questions to ask: How much electricity is used at this site? When is the electricity used? What is the orientation of the building and the exposure to the sun? What is the availability and condition of the roof?
- **Utilize town committees that already exist to help spread the word**
If you have a Renewable Energy Committee, a climate action group, a task force, or strong community committee, make the bonus challenge a tangible focused goal for them and create specific, measurable outreach goals you'd like each member to achieve.
- **Contact the local paper and print an article** describing the program, and the challenge, and who is on board so far. Provide specifics on exactly how to sign up.
- **Contact local boy scout and girl scout troops**
Educate active youth programs about this bonus challenge and get their help and support to let others know what alternative energy is and why they should sign up.
- **Have a few key activists check in with each of the groups contacted about the program on a regular basis to find out about progress.**