

# **Community Solar Program Guide**

## Maine - Net Energy Billing Program

Solar Gardens by Syncarpha - 250 W 57th St, Suite 701, New York, NY 10107 - (888)-557-6527



## **Summary**

Maine's **Net Energy Billing** (NEB) program is designed to promote the development and adoption of solar energy across the state, aligning with Maine's broader goals of increasing renewable energy production and making it accessible to a wider range of consumers. This program provides significant opportunities for both residential and non-residential utility customers to benefit from solar projects, including community solar initiatives.

The NEB program encourages the development of community solar by allowing consumers to share in the costs and benefits of shared-solar projects located within their utility's service territory.

The program offers kWh credits for the electricity produced by community solar projects, which are applied to subscribers' utility bills. These credits can significantly reduce monthly electricity costs, and any unused credits may carry over to the next billing cycle, although they typically expire after one year.

# **Program Details & Eligibility Requirements**

Program	Net Energy Billing - Community Solar						
State	Maine						
Utility	Central Maine Power (CMP)						
Upfront Enrollment Cost	\$0						
Subscriber Discount	<ul> <li>15% guaranteed discount on kWh credits (Volumetric)</li> <li>15% discount to <i>standard</i> all in rate, we will not bill at a discount to their competitive supply if they have one</li> <li>Customer will always pay minimum customer service charge of ~\$15 regardless of credit allocation</li> </ul>						
Subscription Term	20 years - no obligation						
Minimum FICO Score	680 or higher OR Epsilon Value Score (EVS) of B2 or higher for no more than 20% of portfolio  See <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> for summary of Epsilon Value Score See below for EVS comparison to FICO  FICO Score  Value Score						
	B1 123 B2 54	783.31 766.06	787 791	850 846	691 682		
	Not Found 3 Total 589	790.67	781	810	781		
Payment Fees	No additional service fee for credit card transactions						
Early Termination	You may terminate subscription at no penalty, upon written notice to us:  1. Within three business days after signing this Contract; or 2. Upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice; or 3. For any reason						
Eligible Zip Codes	https://joinsolargardens.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/NEB-Maine- Zip-Codes.docx						

## **Process After Enrollment**

#### Once you're signed up, here's what happens next...

- We calculate how much solar energy you need based on your historical, annual electricity usage
- You receive an email to set up your MySolar Account, where you can update contact and
  payment information, access all your documents and invoices, and watch your monthly savings
  and positive environmental impact grow.

#### Once the solar garden is built and generating electricity...

- We'll email you that your project is ready to generate Community Solar Credits (CSCs).
- You won't pay for your CSCs until you receive credits on your electric bill after a full month of solar production.
- Your CSCs reduce the total cost of your utility bill, so you 'll receive your Community Solar Invoice from Solar Gardens for those CSCs and be automatically billed using the provided payment method. This discount offered by Solar Gardens on your CSCs is why you always see savings between the two combined bills.

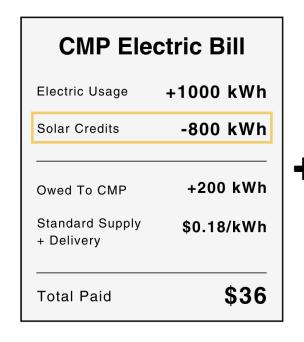
#### While you wait, stay up to date...

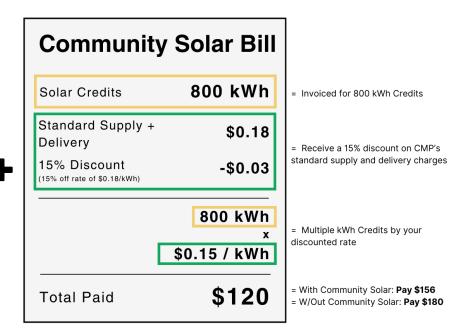
- Look out for our emails that contain important company and project updates.
- Check out our website for helpful FAQs and resources.
- Follow us on social media for news regarding local events and promotions.

# **How Billing Works**

At Solar Gardens, we operate using a two-bill system, a standard across most community solar providers. This means that you will receive two separate bills for your electricity usage:

- One bill from CMP for the delivery of your electricity (kWh). This bill is reduced drastically with your solar credits (kWh).
- One bill from Solar Gardens for the Community Solar Credits you received (kWh). These credits are discounted at 15% to the standard CMP rate and purchased on auto-pay, helping subscribers avoid any hassle.





- Example: If a customer uses 1000 kWh in a given month and receives 800 kWh in credits, they will pay CMP for 200 kWhs at the full rate and pay Solar Gardens for 800 kWh credits at a 15% discount to the standard rate
- Example: if a customer uses 700 kWhs and receives 800 kWh in credits, they will pay CMP the minimum customer charge, pay Solar Gardens at a discount for 800 kWhs, and rollover 100 kWh to the next month

#### What Solar Credits Look Like On Your Electric Bill

#### **CMP Electric Bill - Page 2**

Subscribers can see their solar credits on page 2 under the "Your Generation Details (kWh)"

Prior Balance f Payments Balance Forwa Delivery Charg	al Maine   for Central N received - Trd es	<b>Power Deli</b> Maine Power D Thank you	very Service elivery	e Account		ccount Nui	mber 1234-56	700		J	e 2 of 4 \$21.55 \$21.55 \$0.00
Delivery S	ervice:				Up	0 KWH to 50 KWH				+	\$21.55
Total Current Delivery Charges								\$21.55			
Central Maine	Power Acco	unt Balance									<u>\$21.55</u>
our Meter	Details			Read Cycle	9 07						
Meter	Number	Read Date	Meter Readi	ng Prior I	Read Date	Prior Me	eter Reading	Numb	Number of Days		kWh
Use G000	000000	05/09/2024	67,941	04/0	09/2024	6	66,537 30		30	1,404	
Fixed Per 0.160	centage 000%		Period -05/09/24	Usage 1,404	Gene	ration 209	Banked Gener 374	ation	Unused Expired Cred 0		edits
0.160	000%	04/10/24	-05/09/24	1,404			374		0		
0.160	000%	03/13/24-04/09/24		665	9	82	569	569		0	
0.160	000%	02/10/24-03/12/24		871	1,	123	252	252		0	
0.160	000%	01/11/24	-02/09/24	885	Ę	45	0		0		
0.160	000%	12/12/23	-01/10/24	986	3	94	0		0		
	000%	1 ' '	-12/11/23	1,395		92	0			0	
Please contact produced by R	the Project iverside Sol	Sponsor for dear.	etails regarding	the allocated	l ge <mark>neratio</mark> r	credited t	o your account	. You re	ceive allocat	ted gene	ation
The <b>Allocated Generation</b> column matches the kWh Credits received from your Community Solar project					reflects yo	our "ba	neration co	h			
within that Billing Period. These <b>kWh Credits</b> and the previous month's <b>Banked kWh Credits</b> are applied to				2	the follow	ing mo	e rolled ov onth and ap	plied			
the re	cent mont	th's electricit	ty usage, red	ucing what			as a reduc		your next		
	ay for elec						month's k				

# What Your Community Solar Bill Looks Like With Solar Gardens

## **Community Solar Bill - Sample Invoice from Solar Gardens by Syncarpha**

Approximately 2 weeks after receiving your CMP electric bill (with credits applied to your bill), you will receive a separate bill from your Community Solar provider for the same credits you received.

These credits are then purchased at a guaranteed discount.

Your community solar discount may vary by provider though Solar Gardens offers a guaranteed 15% discount to the Standard Supply and Delivery Rate to all new Central Maine Power subscribers.



Invoice Number: 11111111
Invoice Period: Apr 11 - May 10, 2024
Subscriber ID: 1000000000000
Statement Date: June 13, 2024

**Due Date:** July 15, 2024

Pay To: Riverside Solar LLC

250 West 57th Street, Suite 701 New York, NY 10107 (888) 557-6527 syncarpha@solarforall.io Bill To: SAMPLE CUSTOMER 123 MAIN ST PORTLAND, ME 04101

#### Description

Community solar production facility

Riverside

Production period Apr 11 - May 10, 2024 Credits applied to your bill, account number 1234-5678-900 for **1,209 kWh** 

\$234.60

Amount

Savings (15%), account number 1234-5678-900

-\$35.19

**Subtotal:** \$199.41

**Total Amount Due: \$199.41** 

#### **Payment Method**

Your credit card on file

= (kWh) x (Standard Supply Rate + Delivery Rate)

for the total kWh Credits you received within that production period. This figure matches the figure on page 2 of your CMP electric bill under the Allocated Generation column.

In your Community Solar bill, you will invoiced

=  $(1,209 \text{ kWh}) \times (\$0.108 + \$0.086)$ 

3

# **Understanding The Billing Timeline**



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Community Solar sounds too good to be true...what's the catch?

There is no catch! Community Solar is a state-regulated program in over 22 states, and today, there are projects in over 41 states. Solar developers are incentivized by state policy to share the financial savings of solar energy with community members like yourself, and Solar Gardens, serviced by Neighborhood Sun, is helping to make it all possible!

### Does Community Solar cost me anything?

Nope! There is NO cost to join and NO equipment to install or maintain. If fact, you're guaranteed to SAVE money on clean energy credits by joining Community Solar with Solar Gardens. You will still pay your current utility provider for the electricity you use, but now it will come from a cleaner and more affordable energy source.

### Now that I've subscribed, what happens to my current utility bill?

As soon as your Community Solar project is generating power, you'll receive Community Solar Credits (CSC) directly on your electric bill, reducing the total amount owed to your utility. Your utility bill shows your remaining energy costs owed to the utility after your discounted CSCs have been subtracted from the total.

## How do Community Solar Credits (CSCs) work?

CSCs represent the value of the solar energy generated by your community solar share each month. As a CMP electric customer, your CSCs will appear on your monthly electric bill as a "kWh" reduction, reducing the total "kWh" usage that CMP normally charges.

As a Solar Gardens subscriber, your CSCs are guaranteed to be discounted at 15% to CMP's "standard offer" for the full length of the project. Payment for your CSCs is always automatic and billed to the method you provided when you signed up. If you need help understanding how CSCs work in detail, please call or email us.

#### Why do I have to pay an invoice if it doesn't cost me anything?

You pay Solar Gardens for your CSCs, but at a discount, providing you with guaranteed clean energy savings every year! The amount you owe CMP for electricity is greatly reduced by your CSCs, so the total combined cost between the invoice from CMP and the one from Solar Gardens is still lower than it would be over 12 months without the CSCs generated by your community solar share. Community solar helps you save money & support solar at the same time, ensuring that clean energy is accessible and affordable to ALL--not just the select few.

Project	Project Details	Image
Riverside	Utility: Central Maine Power CS Project Size: 6,531 kW DC PTO Date: 06/16/22 Customer Count (Model): 758	
Wiscasset	Utility: Central Maine Power CS Project Size: 6,440 kW DC PTO Date: 01/02/24 Customer Count (Model): 721	
Edgecomb	Utility: Central Maine Power CS Project Size: 5,612 kW DC PTO Date: 11/06/23 Customer Count (Model): 625	
Readfield	Utility: Central Maine Power CS Project Size: 6,270 kW DC PTO Date: 11/13/23 Customer Count (Model): 802	
Waldoboro	Utility: Central Maine Power CS Project Size: 5,997 kW DC PTO Date: 10/25/23 Customer Count (Model): 713	

## **About Us**

Solar Gardens is a community solar provider powered by its parent company, Syncarpha Capital. Syncarpha was established in 2009 with a mission to remove the roadblocks to widespread solar adoption across the United States and Canada. We firmly believe that clean, affordable, renewable energy should be accessible to everyone, regardless of one's economic circumstances or housing limitations. As a developer, owner, and operator of solar (PV) energy systems, we're able to extend solar access and savings to the communities we serve thanks to state-supported legislation.

**Solar Gardens by Syncarpha: Website** 

**Syncarpha Capital:** Website

Solar Gardens by Syncarpha - (888)-557-6527 - communitysolar@syncarpha.com

