



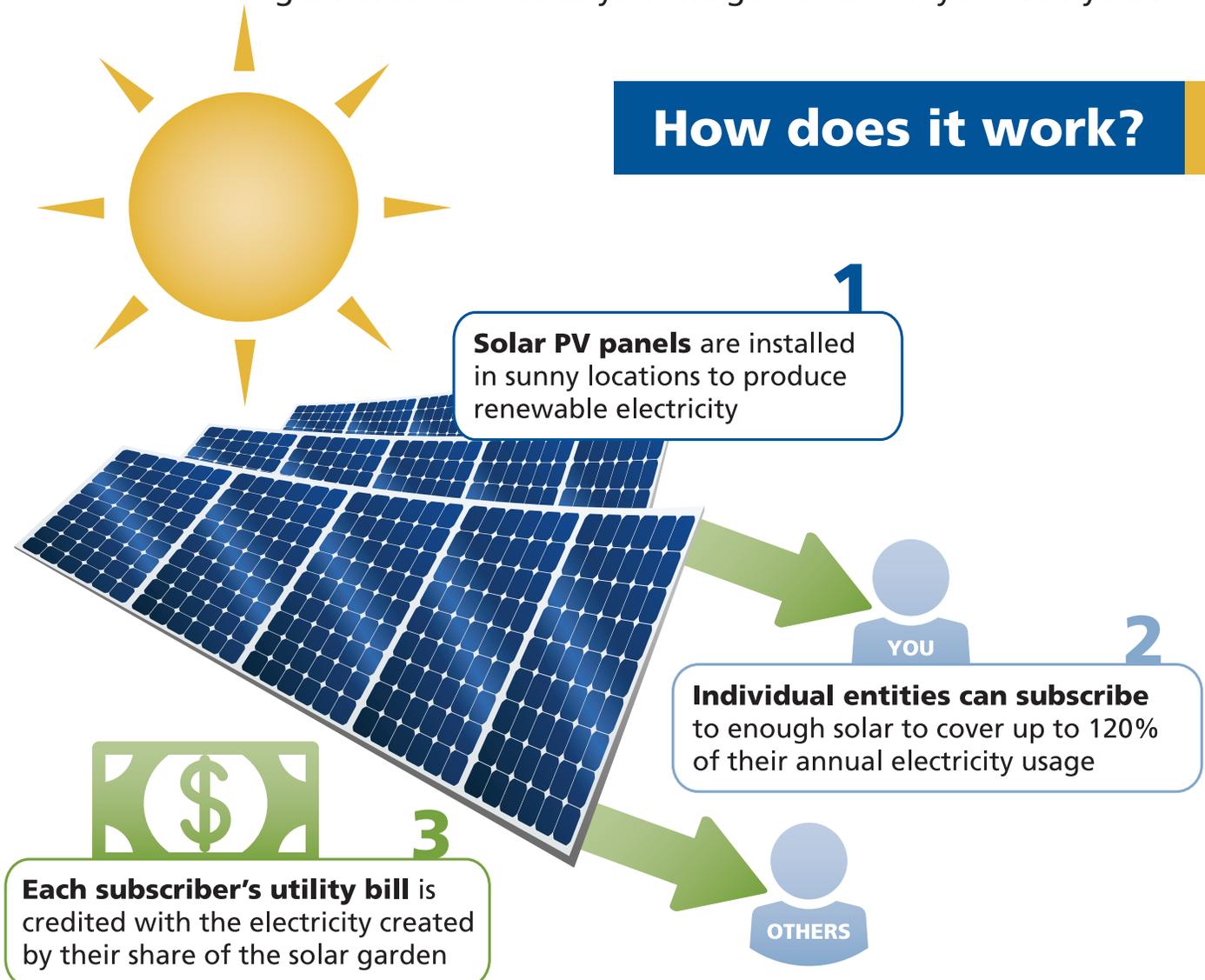
# WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN?

**Community Solar Gardens are centrally located solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that produce electricity for participating subscribers.** Xcel Energy customers can participate in projects offered by private developers. Members of other utilities in Minnesota can subscribe to a community solar garden if one is offered by the utility.

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

**Community solar gardens are for people that want to go solar but are unable to do so on their own.** Perhaps you live in an apartment, have a shaded roof at home, or don't have space at your organization. Now you can subscribe to a community solar garden installed near you and get credits on your utility bill.

## How does it work?



## Q How much solar should I get?

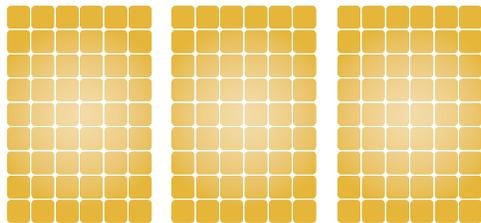
The amount of electricity you use each year helps you decide how much solar to get. Your solar garden subscription can cover up to 120% of your usage. A typical Minnesota home uses 800 kilowatt-hours (kWh) a month. Remember: a more efficient home means more cost-effective solar!

### Electricity Use



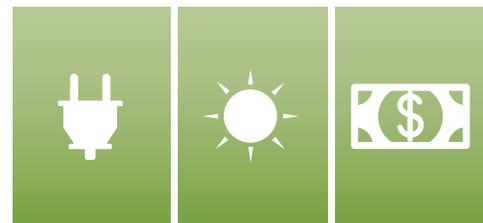
**A typical MN home** uses 800 kWh each month, or 9,600 kWh each year

### 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 [mncerts.org/solargardens#who](https://mncerts.org/solargardens#who).



Learn more, ask questions & take action:

[mncerts.org/solargardens](https://mncerts.org/solargardens)

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