

Residential Solar Panels

Permit Required

- A permit is required for solar panels.

General Requirements

- Rooftop mounted and building-integrated solar systems are allowed in all zoning districts.
- Residential solar systems shall have a rated DC capacity of 25 kW or less.
- The systems shall be mounted on a permitted roof structure or on a legal accessory structure. If on a legal accessory structure, a diagram showing existing electrical connection to structure is attached.
- If the structure is a sloped roof, solar panels are mounted parallel to the roof surface.
- Residential solar systems shall meet the requirements of the NYS Building Code.

Applying for a Permit

- The following information is required to obtain a building permit:
 - One (1) copy of a completed NYS Unified Solar Permit.
 - One (1) set of the solar panel manufacturer's information sheets that includes the solar panel's UL Rating and the installation instructions.
 - One (1) copy of the survey showing the proposed location of the solar panels. The survey should include any recorded easements or wetland delineations.
 - Allow up to ten (10) working days for the permit application to be reviewed. A staff member will contact you when the permit is ready or if additional information is required.
 - Name of the Grand Island licensed electrician who will be performing the work.
 - Estimated cost of the project.
 - Insurance Requirements:

- The contractor performing the construction shall provide proof of liability insurance, worker’s compensation, and disability insurance and name the Town as secondary insured by providing the following:
 - Liability Insurance:
 - Provide a Certificate of Insurance.
 - Workers Compensation:
 - Provide either Form C-105.2, Certificate of Workers’ Compensation Insurance, or
 - Form SI-12, Certificate of Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance, or
 - Form CE-200, Certificate of Attestation for New York Entities With No Employees and Certain Out of State Entities, That New York State Workers’ Compensation Insurance Coverage is Not Required.
 - Disability Benefits:
 - Provide either Form DB-120.1, Certificate of Disability Benefits Insurance, or
 - Form DB-155, Certificate of Disability Benefits Self-Insurance, or
 - Form CE-200, Certificate of Attestation for New York Entities With No Employees and Certain Out of State Entities, That New York State Disability Benefits Insurance Coverage is Not Required.

Fees

- The permit fee is based on the cost of the project as follows:
 - Flat Building Permit Fee: \$390.00
 - Certificate of Occupancy Fee: \$25.00
 - Total Fee: \$415.00

Inspections

- Electrical Inspections
 - An electrician licensed by the Town of Grand Island is required to install the electrical for the solar panels.
 - At least one electrical inspection will be performed to check the installation of the wiring.

- The inspection will be performed after the solar panels is installed and all wiring in place but before any of the wiring is covered with finishes or backfilled.
- Final Inspection
 - One final inspection and will be conducted once the solar panel installation is complete.
 - The final inspection will check the non-electrical solar panel requirements.
 - The following is a brief summary of the non-electrical solar panel requirements:
 - The solar panels shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and match panel layout drawings for location and quantity.
 - There shall be a sticker installed at the meter alerting first responders to the presence of the solar panels.
 - All conduits and electrical disconnects shall be properly labeled per National Electric Code requirements.