

Solar Photovoltaic Systems



Brooklyn Park City Hall
5200 85th Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Visit our Website

Building Inspections Division
www.brooklynpark.org/building-permits-and-inspections

www.brooklynpark.org

Contact a Building Inspector or
Schedule an Inspection
763-488-6379

Scan to apply for a permit.



If you need this information in another language or format or disability accommodations, email access@brooklynpark.org or call 763-424-8000.

Si usted necesita esta información en español: 763-424-8000

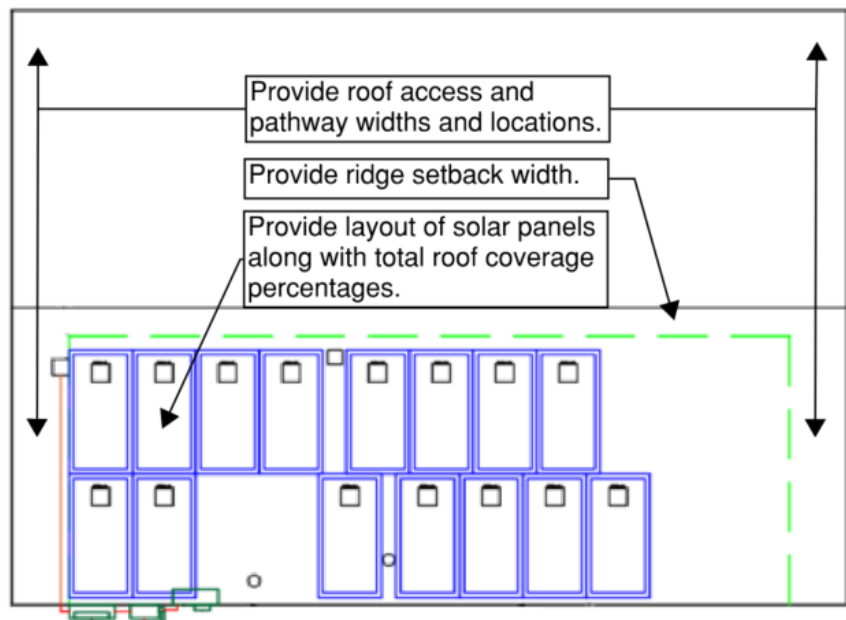
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Permits:

Residential building permits are required for the installation of solar photovoltaic systems.

Construction documents required:

- **Plans drawn to scale shall include:**
 1. Roof layout with proposed photovoltaic panels showing roof access pathway widths and locations.
 2. Structural engineer's evaluation of roof trusses or roof rafters.
 3. Detailed list of all equipment to be installed with proper UL listings (Photovoltaic panels, modules, stationary storage battery systems, mounts, and supports).



Things to consider when drawing/planning your Photovoltaic systems:

- **Roof access and pathways (R324.6):**
 - At least two pathways are required (one located on the street/driveway side, one on each PV array plane).
 - The pathways shall be at least 36 inches wide from the edge of the roof to the peak.
 - Pathways shall be structurally capable of supporting fire fighters accessing the roof.
 - Pathways shall be in areas with minimal obstructions such as pipes, wires, ducts, etc.

This guide is not intended nor shall be considered to cover all requirements of the Minnesota State Building Code or city ordinances.

- **Roof ridge setbacks (R324.6.2)**
 - Setbacks from the ridge are based off the total roof area and the amount of PV panels covering the roof.
 - Solar panels covering less than 33% of the total roof area, then a minimum of 18-inches is required from the ridge.
 - If the total area of solar panels is greater than 33%, then 36-inches setback from the ridge is required on both sides of the roof.
- **Emergency escape and rescue openings (R324.6.2.2)**
 - Solar panels and equipment shall not be placed in front of or below all egress openings.
 - A pathway not less than 36-inches wide shall be provided to all emergency escape and rescue openings.
- **Structural requirements (R324.4.1 & R324.1.1)**
 - Roof mounted solar panels shall be designed to structurally support the system on the existing roof.
 - A licensed MN structural engineer shall evaluate the existing roof structure and provide a stamped report to determine if the roof is adequate to support the new solar panel loads.
- **Wind Load (R324.4.1.2)**
 - Solar panels, mounts/supports shall be designed and installed to resist winds speed up to 115 MPH.
- **Equipment listings (R324.3.1)**
 - All solar panels and its related equipment shall be listed and labeled.
 - Photovoltaic panels and modules shall be listed with UL1703.
 - Inverters shall be listed with UL 1741.
- **Roof penetrations (R324.4.3)**
 - Roof penetrations shall be flashed and sealed in accordance with MN residential code chapter 9.

Inspections:

1. **Framing-** Shall be inspected after structural engineer modifications to roof structure have been made (if applicable).
2. **Building Final:** Shall be inspected after electrical final inspection has been approved.

Scan to schedule an inspection.



General Notes:

- Separate permits for electrical are required.
- Electrical permits are administered by the State of Minnesota Board of Electricity. Visit dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners to obtain an electrical permit or other additional information.
- If your solar install project does not follow the approved plan after the permit has been issued, revised plans shall be submitted to the city for review. Your project cannot proceed until the revised plans have been approved.