Planning & zoning for solar energy systems in Michigan

Communities across the country play an important role in where and how solar energy systems get developed. This presentation will introduce the Extension resource, Planning & Zoning for Solar Energy Systems: A Guide for Michigan Local Governments. This document illustrates how various scales and configurations of photovoltaic SES fit into landscape patterns ranging between rural, suburban, and urban. It was developed by experts within MSU Extension and the MSU School of Planning, Design and Construction in partnership with faculty at the University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute. It first presents the current context for solar in Michigan, describes the various components and configurations of SES, and provides principles for how SES might fit within various land-use patterns across the state. The guide presents sample language for including SES into a community's zoning ordinance.

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