



TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Town of Bloomfield Earns SolSmart Designation From SustainableCT

STORRS, CT – The Town of Bloomfield was one of four registered towns in the area given a SolSmart designation, Sustainable CT announced earlier this week. Sustainable CT is a statewide, voluntary certification program that supports sustainability best practices in Connecticut municipalities. With the addition of these four towns, Bloomfield is now just one of 13 municipalities across the state with the SolSmart Designation.

Joined by the towns of Ashford, Manchester, and Stonington, this designation yields 20 points towards Sustainable CT certification, the most points available for any one action in the Sustainable CT program. Each of Connecticut's 169 municipalities has its own permitting process, permit application and fee structure, which makes widespread solar deployment a challenge. SolSmart encourages streamlining procedures and documentation so Connecticut towns can support and facilitate more sustainable projects, including solar, and bring more business to their communities.

"Achieving SolSmart provides a town national recognition and points in our program towards certification," said Jessica LeClair, Sustainable CT's senior program director, "and it's an action that's included in our Climate Leader Designation program, too, so it's like a win-win-win. Historically, our SolSmart action (5.6.2) has not been very popular with towns because it's one of the more challenging in our program, but now we're thrilled to see towns trying and succeeding."

SolSmart is a national program led by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) that recognizes cities, counties, and regional organizations when they foster the development of mature local solar markets. According to the SolSmart website, more than 400 cities, counties, and regional organizations in 42 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico have achieved SolSmart designation, representing over 107 million people.

About the Town of Bloomfield

Bloomfield is a picturesque Connecticut village, graced with rural beauty, abundant land, quality schools, dynamic commercial building projects, and a highly educated work force. Located just 10 miles west of the state capital of Hartford, the Town encompasses 26.4 square miles and has a population of 21,000 residents. Visit: www.bloomfieldct.gov
