

PURPOSE: The goal of saving energy and incorporating equipment and systems into and on to homes has resulted in increased interest in the installation and use of solar energy devices and equipment. The Association does not want to prevent use of such devices, but feels it is important to ensure that such equipment installation is consistent with the appearance of the neighborhood. Accordingly, these guidelines about solar energy device and equipment installation are to provide consistent direction to protect home values and aesthetics of the community, without preventing the use of solar devices.

Due to differing house styles in the neighborhood and rapid innovation in solar technology resulting in new panels, designs and changes in size requirements, each Member requesting to install solar panels shall submit a request for approval to the Blossom Hill Architectural Review Committee (ARC) prior to installing the solar panel system. Each request for approval will be considered individually on its own merits. Here are some relevant guidelines:

- Solar Panels may only be installed on the roof – not on the ground or elsewhere on the property.
- Solar Panels shall be installed so that each panel lies flat with the roof pitch.
- Panels should be of the same size and shape. It is recommended that individual panels should be placed as closely together as possible to minimize gaps between the panels. Solar panels installed shall be commercially manufactured.
- Installations which are more easily seen from the street or neighboring properties require more attention towards blending them in as inconspicuously as possible with the existing structure.
- No part of the installation should be visible above the peak of the roof on which it is mounted.
- All non-absorbing parts should be a color to match the roof.
- Piping, wiring and control device installation should be installed so that they are minimally visible.
- No energy storage, such as batteries, are to be visible outside of the residence.
- All installations must comply with all applicable state, county, or township laws, building codes and other governmental regulations, and must be secured so that they do not jeopardize the safety of residents or cause damage to adjacent properties.
- All Solar Panels shall be maintained in good repair. If damaged, creating a safety hazard or damage to adjacent properties they shall be repaired or removed by the homeowner.
- When submitting an ARC request for consideration relative to Solar Panels, the following items should be included to facilitate review:
 - Drawings and/or photos showing proposed location on the roof, with color photos taken from street.
 - Detailed information regarding size, installation details, cabling and control panels, materials and color. A manufacturers' brochure is always helpful.