

CHAPTER 32**SOLAR PANELS****ARTICLE I – GENERALLY****32-1-1 DEFINITIONS.**

(A) **“Photovoltaic System”** is a solar energy system that produces electricity by the use of semiconductor devices, called photovoltaic cells, that generate electricity whenever light strikes them.

(B) **“Solar Energy”** is radiant energy received from the sun that can be collected in the form of heat or light by a solar collector.

(C) **“Roof Mount Solar”** is a photovoltaic system that has its electricity-generating solar panels mounted on the rooftop of a residential or commercial building or structure. The various components of such a system include photovoltaic modules, mounting systems, cables, solar inverters and other electrical accessories. Rooftop mounted systems are small compared to ground-mounted photovoltaic power stations with capacities in the megawatt range.

(D) **“Ground Mount Solar”** is a solar energy system that is directly installed onto the ground and is not attached or affixed to an existing structure.

32-1-2 ROOF MOUNT SOLAR. Roof Mount Solar shall be permitted as follows:

(A) Installation must be done according to manufacturer’s recommendations. All work must be completed according to applicable building, fire and electric codes. All electrical components must meet code recognized standards.

(B) No more than one system may be placed on any lot. In no case shall a system exceed the nameplate capacity.

(C) All surfaces shall be non-reflective to minimize glare that could affect adjacent or nearby properties.

(D) No lighting other than required safety lighting or indicators shall be installed on the system.

(E) No advertising or signage other than required safety signage and equipment labels shall be permitted on the system.

(F) If interconnected to a utility grid, the system shall meet the requirements for interconnection and operation set forth by the utility company.

(G) A clearly marked and easily accessible shut off is required for any system that generates electricity.

(H) System shall be well maintained in an operational condition so that it poses no potential safety hazard. If the system remains nonfunctional or inoperative for a continuous period of **one (1) year**, the system shall be deemed abandoned. The owner/operator shall remove the abandoned system at their expense.

(I) No system shall be constructed within **twenty (20) feet** laterally of an overhead electrical power line, excluding secondary electrical services line or service drops.

(J) The system shall be setback not less than **one (1) foot** from the exterior perimeter of the roof for every **one (1) foot** the system extends above the parapet wall or roof surface. Building integrated systems are not required to be setback from roof edge. Access pathways shall be provided in accordance to all applicable.

(K) All components of the system shall be designed to minimize their visual presence to surrounding properties and public thoroughfares, building, fire, and safety codes.

(L) The collector panel surface and mounting system shall not extend higher than **eighteen (18) inches** above the roof surface of a sloped roof or higher than **seven (7) foot** above a flat roof.

(M) Other than building integrated systems, the system can only be installed on the building roof.

32-1-3 GROUND MOUNT SOLAR. Ground Mount Solar shall not be permitted.

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