



# VILLAGE OF SKOKIE

Community Development Department – Building Division  
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## Solar Panel Requirements

The Village of Skokie encourages the installation of solar panels for residential, commercial, and industrial applications.

As a result of our commitment to energy conservation and sustainable practices, the Village has not restricted the installation of solar systems beyond typical zoning and building code requirements.

Please find below a summary of zoning and building requirements.

### Zoning Requirements

Rooftop solar panels are permitted in every zoning district as fixtures attached flush to the roof of a structure.

Panels may be attached to tilt mounting brackets provided the panels do not exceed the district height requirements.

Freestanding solar panels are permitted as accessory structures in all zoning districts, provided the structure is not located within the front yard area and/or adjacent to street frontages.

The minimum rear yard setback requirement for freestanding solar panels is 3 feet, and the maximum height is 10 feet.

### Building Requirements

A building permit is required for the installation of solar panels. To start the review process, fill out a Building Permit Application and a Zoning Information Worksheet, which can be obtained at the Building Division Customer Service Counter or on the Building Division's page on the Village's website – [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

Upon submittal of a completed application and the payment of fees, a permit should be issued within 1 week.

Please note that the Village enforces the 2012 ICC Building Code and the 2014 National Electrical Code. Building inspectors will primarily evaluate the mounting of the panel onto the roof or the ground and the electrical connections.



Figure 1: Flush-mounted solar panels



Figure 2: Tilt-mounted solar panels



Figure 3: Free standing solar panels