



Community Grant Requests

Apex Clean Energy and the Coldwater Solar team aim to be active community participants and support local efforts to build healthy communities within the Coldwater Solar project area. Our community grant program is one way for us to give back while partnering with local people and organizations to support programs aligned with four types of activities: building healthy communities, promoting education, economic development, and environmental sustainability.

If you are interested in applying for a community grant, you may do so online by visiting www.coldwatersolar.com/grant. You may also download the application and submit a completed request in writing to info@coldwatersolar.com. These guidelines apply to both monetary and in-kind product and service donations.

Application Content:

Please be as detailed as possible when filling out your application, and remember to address each of the following points:

- The requesting organization's name, address, phone number, email, and contact person responsible for the request.
- A synopsis of the organization's mission and history.
- A description of the project to be funded, including the amount of support being requested and total budget for the project.
- Details regarding the benefit to be realized, should the grant be awarded, including demonstration of a positive impact on the communities or residents living and working in Coldwater and Ovid Townships in Branch County, Michigan.
- An explanation of how this grant will promote our vision to support one of the funding categories below.
- Disclosure of the name and title of key leaders within the organization (staff, board, etc.).
- Proof of registration with the IRS, or qualifying non-profit status, including a tax-exempt determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

Grant Funding Goals

Highest priority will be afforded Community Grant requests that:

- Are complete, accurate and include details regarding the timing of when resources will be needed.
- Clearly support identified building blocks of a healthy community that support one of the following activity areas:
 - Building Healthy Communities

- ✦ Programs that support good government, open communication, citizen resources, public health, and/or enhance the quality of life in the community. Applicants must demonstrate how the program or event contributes to these social goals.
- Economic Development
 - ✦ Apex Clean Energy supports and encourages the entrepreneurial spirit. It is part of our mission to serve as a catalyst for economic growth and development within the communities where we operate.
- Environmental Sustainability
 - ✦ Programs that possess a strong link to environmental revitalization, sustainability, or education thereof, empower residents to be stewards of the environment, and/or encourage partnerships to address environmental concerns and sustainability. Participating organizations must have a credible record of success in environmental performance.
- Promoting Education
 - ✦ Programs that support educational institutions, the advancement of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), and training programs for careers in the renewable energy industry. This may include curriculum development, literacy, school readiness, and other initiatives that help students grow into young leaders. Vocational training institutions that help build a skilled workforce are also included and encouraged to apply.

When a Community Grant request is approved:

- Grant recipients must be willing to work with Apex Clean Energy to share details regarding the award with the general public, including the submission of a press release to local media outlets announcing the award and relevant details or highlights of your specific project.
- Grant recipients may be asked, when feasible, to track attendees/participants in programs that benefits from the grant and report any outcome data obtained because of the grant.
- Grant recipients may be asked to submit pictures or video from sponsored events for which they are awarded funding. These pictures are to be included in the final report, and may be featured on websites, or in material pertaining to Apex Clean Energy's community grant program.
- Grant recipients shall submit a simple follow-up report within three months after a sponsored event, or one year following funding distribution, in the case of ongoing programs. Reports should include general project outcomes and results, as well as any relevant supplemental materials produced in conjunction with, or because of, the grant. This should include event photographs, printed materials, newsletters, digital ads, etc.

If you have questions about the program, please email info@coldwatersolar.com or call (517) 468-6830.