

Municipality	Ordinance Citation	Applicability By Type	Location Applied	Adopted Tax Ordinance?	Prohibited Areas	Special Exemptions	Decommissioning Plan	Notes	Links
Barrington	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes, (Chapter 169 - 23)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Systems, Wind energy is addressed, but not solar	https://ecode360.com/30619894
Bristol	Sec. 28-286	Large Scale	Permitted use on property owned by the Town of Bristol (zoned OS and the site of a capped landfill)	Yes, (Chapter 27, Article II)	N/A	N/A	Sec. 28-290. - Abandonment and decommissioning. Remove the facility no more than 180 days after the date of discontinued operations	(Ord on 6-26-19) Must be consistent with Comp Plan	https://library.municode.com/ri/bristol/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTJVCO_CH28ZO_ARTIXLADEPRSPZO_DIV1.5LALGRUNSOPHFA_S28-286PUARALGRUNSOPHFA
Burrillville	Ord. 02-12-2020 Sec. 30-211	Any solar energy systems, regardless of type	SUP in VC, GC, GI LI	Yes, (Sec. 25-5)	"Elec. Generating Fac. now prohibited in F-5, LI and GI zones	Town owned land	shall be removed within 180 days from the date of discontinued operations	(Ord update 2-12-20-more siting details added) Planning Board approval required, Insurance required, no more than 20% of lot coverage, clear-cutting of forest prohibited, 10ft Max height, 6ft fence to surround perimeter of installation	https://library.municode.com/ri/burrillville/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=1006563
Central Falls	Sec. 30-211			None found			N/A	No ordinance, but Residential/Roof Mounted allowed above max height	https://clerkshq.com/centralfalls-ri
Charlestown	Sec. 506 (not fully addressed)	"Solar Farms"		None found			Responsibility of the land 158 owner to remove all obsolete or unused installation systems within (12) months, after cessation...	Only solar permit application can be found on Charlestown website: https://charlestownri.gov/vertical/Sites/%7BDF68A5B8-A4F3-47A1-AE87-B411E21C6E1C%7D/uploads/Solar_Permit_Application_-_Effective_January_1_2018(1).pdf	N/A
Coventry	255-2140 Ground-mounted solar installations.	Roof and ground mounted	All zones allowed as accessory use(minor), Med. By SUP	Addressed, but not exempt (Chapter 217-26) Renewable energy systems ment solely to offset electricity bills are exempt from taxation			Decommission plan is required. "Proof of financial surety for removal"	Ground system categories (Minor, Medium, and Major) - Max lot coverage is 15%	https://ecode360.com/32721620?highlight=solar&searchId=34949951413133716
Cranston	Article 21, 17.24.020 - Solar Energy Systems	Roof Top and Ground mounted	By right in A-80, M-1, M2 and S-1 zones	Yes, waiver for systems no selling excess power, (Chapter 3.16.060)	All other zones not listed	A special use permit is required for ground-mounted minor accessory SESs in A-80 and S-1 zones only	17.Decommissioning and Restoration: Any SES shall be removed within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of discontinued operations. Decommission rules are defined in the ordinance	Addresses decommissioning and abandonment *Solar canopies over two hundred (200) kW are subject to DPRC.	https://library.municode.com/ri/cranston/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=CO_TIT17ZO_CH17.24PESTGE_17.24.020SOENSY
Cumberland	Article 18-8	Roof and ground mounted		Yes- systems under 250KW exempt, (Chapter 36-7&8)	" forested areas shall not be cleared for the purpose of installing solar installations"		Removal of structures, disposal and "stabilization or re-vegetation is required. After 150, Town "may remove the facility"	Dimensional guidelines are discussed, Abandonment is addressed	https://ecode360.com/30188064#:~:text=No%20solar%20energy%20system%20shall,necessary%20by%20the%20building%20official
East Greenwich	Article XX	Roof, Intrgrated, Ground, Minor, Major		Yes, RIGL 44-3-3 referenced (Chapter 227-50)	Downtown Hist. Dist.(ground)	Tax Exeption for Renewable Systems	Parcel owner must remove obsolete systems within 6 mos. PB "may" require financial security covering removal. Estimate prepared by licensed engineer	20ft vegetated buffer	https://ecode360.com/33309446

East Providence	Sections 19-176 through 19-179	Ground mounted (Large Scale)	Open Space - 1	Yes- Minor systems exempt, major systems fully taxable (Sec 16-98)		City Landfill (FORBES)	Owner OR Operator must remove obsolete systems within 180 days. Applicants shall provide financial security covering removal. "The amount shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation"	Large projects subject to Land Dev Projects procedure, Addresses abandonment and decommissioning, Mentions consistency with Comp Plan. Sign at the facility shall be required to identify the name of the owner and operator of the facility and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number	https://library.municode.com/ri/east-providence/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIIREOR_CH1920_ARTIVSUDI_RE_DIV4ACUS_S19-176PUARALGRUNSOPHFA
Exeter	Sec. 11.1	Building and ground mount, canopies	Allowed in B, LBR, LI, GWOL and PVOD. SUP in RU4, CR-5 and Planned Dist.	Yes, MAY elect to exempt systems NOT selling power. Other systems are taxes \$5/kW (Chapter 227-50)		Solar canopies can exceed 12 feet in height.	Decommission plan req. for utility scale install. removed within 180 days		https://library.municode.com/ri/exeter/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=APXAZO_ARTXIREEN_S11.1SO
Foster	Sec. 38-292	Ground-mounted, Roof-mounted	All zones	No, but mentions RIGL 44-3-21 (Chaper 34-54(5))			Parcel owner must remove obsolete systems within 6 mos.	Maj. Land Dev. Approval for systems over 250kw or 40%+ of net buildable area	https://library.municode.com/ri/foster/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH3820_ARTVISURE_S38-292SOIN
Glocester	Article VII, Sec. 350-46	Roof, Canopy, Large and utility scale	Small (all zones as accessory), Med. and Large (all except Village Overlay Dist.). Med (Devt plan rev.), Large (SUP) utility-scale ground-mounted(A-4, A-3, and I zone)	Yes (Chapter 247-43)			Owner or operator to remove, dispose and stabilize or re-vegetate within 180 days. Financial surety, to cover 125% of estimated cost of removal	Small, Med, Large size distinctions (150ft & 200ft setbacks for Med and Large). 20%-30% lot coverage max. Limit of forest cut is set at 30%	https://ecode360.com/9717896?highlight=solar&searchId=34957466500441484#9717896
Hopkinton	Sec. 5	roof, ground	By right in commercial & Manufacturing Zones	None found		Large prohibited in town			https://www.hopkintonri.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf8546/f/uploads/zoning-amendment-application_6.pdf#:~:text=In%20no%20instance%20shall%20any,differs%20from%20the%20roof%20pitch.
Jamestown	Chapter 232 (current amendments being discussed)	roof, ground		None found		no conserved land, DDR, or easements	N/A	zoning ordinance March 2024	https://mcclibraryfunctions.azurewebsites.us/api/ordinanceDownload/14599/1279756/pdf
Johnston	Ord. 2020-5			None found			Yes- Removal required in 180 days. Financial guarantee for the decommissioning required		https://ecode360.com/37046161#37046161
Lincoln	Sec. 260-19 - Z.(1)	Utility scale, Roof mounted, ground-mounted	SUP in BL, ML and MG zones (Util. scale)	None found		RA, RS, RL, RG, CRI, CR2, VCMU (Util. scale)	Not addressed	Lincoln sets the use table as a combo of solar and wind systems. Utility scale, Gound mounted residential and roof mounted residential	https://ecode360.com/9726918?highlight=solar&searchId=34959084134221046#9726918 https://ecode360.com/L11805/laws/LF1970869.pdf
Little Compton	Chapter 14-5,14	Accessory and Principal uses, Ground-mounted, roof-mounted		None found		Residential Zone (Principal solar) Land under conservation (Ground-mounted). 100 feet of any freshwater/coastal wetland (Ground-mounted)	SUP in Pikes Peak and Adamsville areas	remove within 120 days. Financial security to cover the cost of removal	https://ecode360.com/35416797?highlight=solar&searchId=34959394684151924#35416797

Middletown	Article 7- 725	Ground mounted	SUP needed for ground mount in all districts. Solar carports and canopies in residential zones only for accessory use.	None found	Open Space. front yard in residential district (ground-mounted)	Roof accessory use allowed in all districts, GroundDev.Plan Rev.	Removal after 6 mos. of cessation. Restoration to pre-development condition. Town may remove at cost of owner, lien possible. decommissioning plan statement required	Max of 25% of lot area in Residential, 25 ft setback from property lines	https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/middletown/latest/middletown_ri/0-0-10674
Narragansett	Sec. 7.3, 7.6, 11.4, 12.5			None found			N/A	SUP- limited development details	https://library.municode.com/ri/narragansett/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_APXAZO_S7SUZORE_7.6_SULOBURE
New Shoreham	Ord. No. 2021-01	Ground, canopy SUP > 400 sqft	Accessory uses in all zones	None found			Remove within 180 days	No solar array size greater than 750 square feet	https://clerkshq.com/NewShoreham-RI?docId=NShoreAppE&path=NewShoreham_Code%2CNShoreP2%2CNShoreAppE%2C
Newport	Chapter 17.65.100.			None found			N/A		https://library.municode.com/ri/newport/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COOR_TIT17ZO_CH17.65INHUIH_17.65.100DESTINHU
North Kingstown	Section 21-323	Roof and freestanding ground mounted		None found		Town-owned lands	Not addressed	Min lot size 80,000sf, SUP required	https://library.municode.com/ri/northkingstown/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIIREOR_CH21ZO_ARTXIIMIP_R_S21-323SOENSY
North Providence	Sec 177 - 180	Large Scale ground		None found			The owner or operator shall physically remove the facility no more than 180 days after the date of discontinued operations. Financial surety to cover the cost of removal		https://library.municode.com/search?sateId=39&clientId=2024&searchText=solar&contentType=CODES
North Smithfield	Article 7	Roof and ground mounted	BH, BN, LC, and M Zone Districts by right. SUP in all other zones	Yes, (Chapter 6- 3.12)	Open Space		Bond required, return to "pre-siting" conditions by owner/operator, within 120 days, if not, town will remove using escrowed funds. Amount to be calculated by peer review engineer selected by town.	Residential as access. Use, med an Large scale subject to Tec. Review and Land Dev& Subdiv. Regs	https://ecode360.com/37922596?highlight=pre-siting&searchId=19765643354038353#37922596
Pawtucket	Article 5.11			None found		Mentions solar as "permitted above max height of building"	N/A		https://ecode360.com/8133371?highlight=solar&searchId=19766498932696243#8133371
Portsmouth	Article xx	Roof and Large, Med., Small, ESE.		None found		Town land	Abandonment addressed	SUP needed in most zones	https://ecode360.com/39204434
Providence	Chapter No. 2014-39	Commercial Solar	By right in M-1, M-2 an M-3 SUP in W-2 and W-3	None found			"owner and operator" must decommission at end of useful life (180 days of non-use)	Decommissioning is mentioned	https://www.providenceri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/24.01.01-Official-Zoning-Ordinance.pdf
Richmond	Ch. 18.24	principal use and ground mounted	Permitted in Gen. Bus., Lt. Ind., Ind, and PUD-VC zones	Yes, systems covered under RIGL 44-3-3(a)(22), (48) and (49) are exempt (Chapter 3.55.040)			Before permit issued: Decommissioning plan is required (removal, disposal and restoration (as close as possible) to previous conditions), within 90 days, "owner of the system" is on the hook	Permitted accessory use on Ag lands. Includes dimensional requirements (height, setbacks, buffers, etc.) Project review fee of five hundred dollars when the development plan review application is submitted.	https://clerkshq.com/richmond-ri
Scituate	Ord. 21-02	roof, ground, canopy	Building mounted solar permitted in all zones	None found		Small-scale accessory residential systems	Removed within 180 days. Financial surety 125% of the cost of decommissioning.		https://library.municode.com/ri/scituate/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=1206756

Smithfield			Accessory array OK in all zones. Yes, systems up to 250kW exempt(Chapter 321-11.3)		The Town is exempt	N/A	- 20% max coverage of lots in Res zones small scale- tech review, Med and Large scale- Land Dev & G33Sub Div. Regs	340-3.24 https://ecode360.com/37922515 Requirements for all nonaccessory ground-mounted solar photovoltaic systems. § 340-3.23 https://ecode360.com/37922530 Requirements for accessory use solar photovoltaic systems.	https://ecode360.com/37922496
South Kingstown	Section 510	Minor and Major, canopies		None found			Any solar energy system that has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned shall be removed no more than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of discontinued operations	SUP in most zones promoted development in GI parcels	https://library.municode.com/ri/south-kingstown/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeid=PTIICOOOR_APXAZOOR_ART55_URE_S510SOENSY
Tiverton	Article 3, Sec. 300	Roof and ground mounted	All sizes permitted in R30, R-40, R-60, R80, GC, HC, and I zones some setbacks apply)	None found	VC Zone		owner or operator of medium or large solar energy systems fails to remove in 150 days following notification and a public hearing the Planning Board may vote to call the surety and the Town may physically remove the facility	ADDITIONAL Requirements include: setbacks of sixty feet, with thirty feet of natural screening vegetated buffer, landscaped or fencing screening of six feet height minimum minimum parcel size of no less than three acres	https://library.municode.com/RI/tiverton/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeid=963808
Warren		Utility Scale only, ground, roof	SUP in R40,B,M,CI	Yes, RIGL 44-3-21 referenced as a 20- yr exemption for residential systems (Sec. 7- 122)	R20, R15,R10, R6, VB, W, SD, FC		N/A	60 ft setback, Min parcel size of 20 acre	https://library.municode.com/ri/warren/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeid=THCO_CH7FITA_ARTIITAEX_DIV9RESODE
Warwick	Apendex A	Principal, Accessory	O, GB, LI, GI zones	Yes, (Sec 74-52)			The owner, applicant, or operator shall remove the system within 6 months upon confirmation by the City of abandonment.		https://www.warwickri.gov/sites/g/files/vyhilf12206/ff/uploads/pco-6-20_sub_b_draft_amendments.pdf
West Greenwich	Article 23	Roof, Ground, Canopy, etc.	SUP in R80	Yes, (Chapter 325-29 & 30) A	see setback requirements: https://ecode360.com/33936699?highlight=solar&searchid=35301288261878807		Removal within 180 days. Financial security to cover the cost of removal	Major developments as Major Land Dev't	https://ecode360.com/33936693?highlight=solar&searchid=35301288261878807#33936693
West Warwick	Sec 5		CI or BP zone	Yes, Article V, Sec. 18-54			Any "green project" must be removed within 180 days of cessation. Includes removal, disposal and revegetation/stabilization of site. Surety required (reasonable amount, not to exceed 125% of cost as determined by "town engineer". If not removed within a year, must be removed with 90 days of the 365th day.		https://library.municode.com/ri/west-warwick/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeid=PTIICOOOR_APXAZOOR_ARTIGEPRESUSRE

Westerly	Articale 11 Sec. 260-87.8	Accessory and Principal uses, ground and roof	All zones	Yes, Article IV, 229	Accessory permitted in all zones. Primary by SUP in RR60, LDR40, GI and LI zones. Not permitted eslewhere	Removal within 180 days. After that, Town may remove and seek damages. Bond or cash security required at time of plan approval. Estimate set by DPW.		https://ecode360.com/34194883?highlight=solar&searchid=35302818470069037#34194883
Woonsocket	Sec. 6.15	Roof and ground mounted (small and large)	All zones	Yes, special application process (Sec. 2-76)	Small Residential - PR-1, PR-2 others- R-1,R-2,R-3,R-4,MU-1, C-1,C-2,PR-1,PR-2	Parcel owner to remove obsolete or unused systems within 6 months, surety bond "may" be required before issuance of permits	20kw or less for residential, Abandonment/Decommissioning is addressed	https://clerkshq.com/Content/Woonsocket-ri/books/code/woonappc.htm