

Goals	Done <i>2016-2019</i>	Doing <i>mid-2019</i>	Planning <i>late 2019-2020</i>
Identify and develop sites that are ideal for solar development, especially solar “ambassador” projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published Solar Roadmap identifying 15 solar ambassador sites with solar site assessments and economic analysis • Encouraged creative solar financing • Launched residential Solarize Wise program • Issued first group purchase RFP for solar developers including seven buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release and award second commercial-scale group purchase RFP for multiple buildings including a hospital, municipal buildings, and community centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue tracking and aiding with solar construction on RFP ambassador projects • Explore large-scale solar development on post-mined lands • Create demonstration and educational programs at ambassador sites
Grow workforce development and entrepreneurship opportunities to advance solar projects and maximize local benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created solar internship program with Solarize Wise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage installers to provide student internships and hire local subcontractors • Support HVAC and similar contractors to partner with installers in RFP process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire grant money for internship stipends • Ongoing RFP process to spur the growth of solar installers and solar sites
Expand education and outreach in communities and with local leaders around solar benefits and opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held successful educational Solar Fair at UVa-Wise • Awarded two \$500 mini-grants to local high school students for Solar-in-Your-School Challenge • Held Solar Workgroup meetings to promote regional solar development • Developing one-stop website resource for residential solar in SWVA: http://swvasolar.org/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded residential solar outreach program • Facilitated regional SolSmart program to assist eight SWVA local governments with designation and technical assistance (see back for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train and oversee residential solar outreach team • Facilitate new community Solarize programs • Explore options for community-owned solar projects • Ongoing Solar Workgroup meetings and goal implementation
Promote policy changes that will help grow the solar industry in Southwest Virginia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Delegate Kilgore to support pro-solar power policy legislation in 2018 General Assembly session • Developed key state-level policy recommendations (see Solar Roadmap) • Supporting renewed effort to pass PPA enabling legislation in 2019 GA session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilizing “Solar Services Agreement” third party financing to develop ambassador sites • Assist all Southwest Virginia counties to achieve SolSmart designation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities for policy support and future bill introduction • Engage utilities on advancing solar policy in the region

SolSmart

<http://swvasolar.org/webinars/>

SolSmart is a program from the U.S. Department of Energy SolSmart that recognizes cities and counties that remove barriers to solar development and make it faster, easier, and cheaper for local homes and businesses to go solar. By adopting solar friendly business practices, like streamlining the permitting process and providing online resources for local solar development, communities position themselves for greater solar investment opportunities. SWVA has been awarded a Technical Assistant from a team of national experts to work with local governments to evaluate and act on solar goals in each community.

Outreach and Education

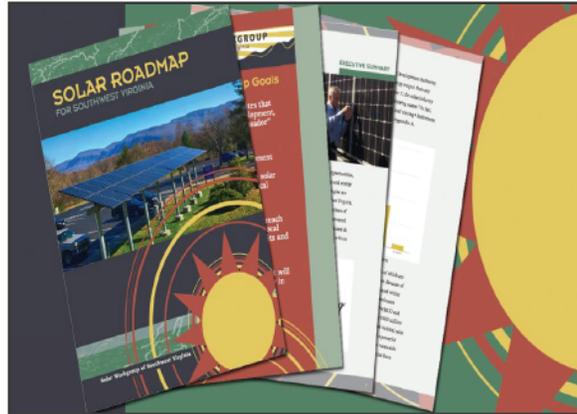
<http://swvasolar.org/webinars/>

Visit the above link to explore SWVA Solar Workgroup's three webinars: Utility Scale Solar on Post-Mined Lands, Southwest Virginia Solar Development, and Southwest Virginia Solar Roadmap.

Publish Solar Roadmap

<http://swvasolar.org/solar-roadmap/>

The Solar Workgroup of Southwest Virginia has released a report detailing a multi-faceted strategy for establishing a vibrant solar energy hub in the coalfields of far Southwest Virginia.



Solar RFP Site Tours

Solar installers toured several sites as part of a site tour with the 2018 commercial-scale group purchase solar RFP. Another RFP will be released in 2019.



2017 Solar Fair mini-grant winners -- Eastside High School

The Solar Workgroup of Southwest Virginia was formed as a result of the 2016 SWVA Economic Forum hosted by UVa-Wise. The mission of the Solar Workgroup is to utilize the development of solar energy as an economic catalyst in the seven-county region of far Southwest Virginia