

Agenda – Western Massachusetts Solar Forum

Session 1: Solar & Land Use in Massachusetts

September 12, 12:00 - 4:00 PM

Time	Item	Speaker
12:00-12:15	Welcome, Logistics, Introduction to Session.	Scott Jackson (Moderator) UMass Extension/Environmental Conservation Department
12:15 – 12:35	State Laws & Regulations + Local Bylaws and Ordinances	Ken Comia, PVPC
12:35 – 12:50	Where has solar been developed with respect to land use?	John Rogan, Clark University
12:50 – 1:00	Overview of costs and complexities of solar across project types, scales, and market sectors	Andy Toomajian, SEBANE / Sunbug Solar
1:00 – 1:10	Challenges of Solar Development in the Built Environment	Josh Hilsdon, PV Squared
1:10 – 1:20	Food Production and Farmland Protection	Clem Clay, UMass Agricultural Extension
1:20 – 1:30	Wildlife Habitat, Conservation and Recreational Land	Andy Finton, The Nature Conservancy
1:30 – 1:40	Carbon Sequestration	Jonathan Thompson, Harvard Forest
1:40 – 2:00	Roundtable 1 - Land Use Challenges and Constraints Q&A	All speakers from above
2:00 – 2:15	BREAK	
2:15-2:30	Introduction to second half of Session; Massachusetts State Initiatives and Laws relevant to addressing solar and land use	Scott Jackson
2:30-2:35	MassDOT Solar-Related Activities	Andy Paul, Highway Design Engineer, MassDOT
2:35-2:45	DOER Technical Potential of Solar Study	Kerry Judge, MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER)
2:45-3:00	MA Audubon/Harvard Forest Report	Michelle Manion, Mass Audubon
3:00-3:15	Current UMass CEE Efforts to Address Solar Land Use Conflicts	Zara Dowling, UMass Clean Energy Extension
3:15-3:25	Solar In an Urban Context: Re-Development of the Mt. Tom Coal Facility	Lena Entin, Neighbor to Neighbor
3:30-3:50	Roundtable 2 – Current Efforts to Address Challenges Q&A	Michelle Manion Zara Dowling
3:50-4:00	Feedback and Wrap Up	Scott Jackson, UMass Extension