



ProtectMyManufacturedHome

What You Should Know:

# Installing solar panels on your manufactured or mobile home

An L&I alteration permit and plans are required when installing solar panels on a manufactured or mobile homes. L&I has a four-step process for home alterations like this. Here's how:

## Step 1: See if you need to submit plans.

You need to submit plans for solar panels, also known as solar photovoltaic system installations.

Plans must specifically show:

- The location of the solar panels and equipment.
- Details showing where and how the panels are attached and supported.
- How the roof can support the added weight of the installation.
- A complete wiring diagram.
- How the system connects to the existing electrical systems.
- Electrical calculations showing the voltages and current of the system.
- Manufacturers' product information for the major components.

Plans for structural changes must be stamped by a Washington professional engineer (PE) or architect. When you install a photovoltaic system, you need to submit plans when buying a permit (see step 2). There is a fee for reviewing plans which is added to the permit. It usually takes two to three weeks to process plans and **plans must be approved before proceeding with the work.**



## Get more information

- Visit [www.Lni.wa.gov/FAS](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/FAS)
- For structural issues, contact plan review at: 360-902-5218
- For general permit help, call customer service at: 360-902-5206
- Or email [FAS1@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:FAS1@Lni.wa.gov)

## Step 2: Get a permit.

An alteration permit for “added electrical circuits” is required. When solar panels are roof mounted, a permit for “structural inspection for mechanical” is also required. Permits can be purchased at any L&I office, or online at [www.Lni.wa.gov/FAS](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/FAS). The permit can also be created when plans are sent to L&I. You can submit plans through your local L&I office, email them to [FAS1@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:FAS1@Lni.wa.gov), or mail them to:

Factory Assembled Structures Plan Review Section  
Washington State Department of Labor & Industries  
PO Box 44430  
Olympia, WA 98504

Contractors who fail to take out alteration permits prior to starting work are subject to fines.

## Step 3: Do the work.

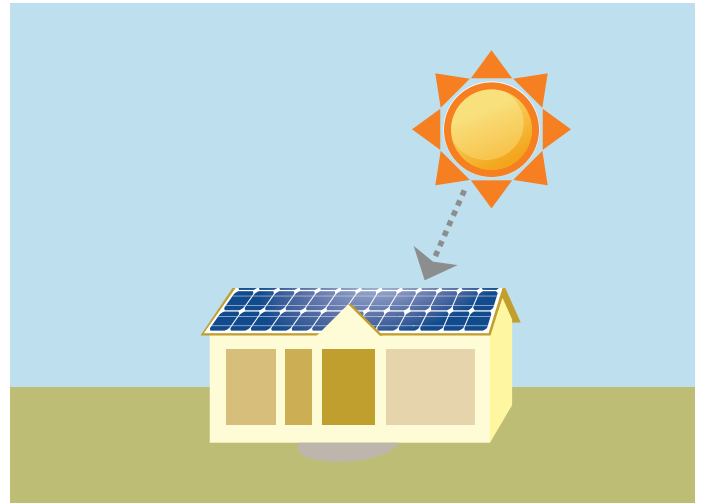
There are important things to remember when installing PV systems:

- Post your permit near your front door or worksite.
- Electrical installations must be performed by a licensed electrical contractor.
- Be sure to hire a registered contractor who provides a detailed written bid.
- Check with your utility for local requirements and rebates for installing solar panels.

## Step 4: Get the project inspected.

You’ve finished the project. **It’s your responsibility** to make sure it gets inspected. Here’s what you need to do:

- Call for electrical and structural inspections at [www.Lni.wa.gov/FAS](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/FAS) by entering “Request FAS inspection” in the search box or call or visit an L&I office. The inspector will contact you when he is scheduled to be in your area, usually in about 10 days.
- Remember: The lack of a permit and inspection could affect the safety of your home, your ability to obtain financing, or obtain insurance.



### Why does L&I require permits and inspections?

Think of L&I as Washington’s “building department” for all factory assembled structures in the state. Since 1968, the agency has been responsible for inspections of manufactured and mobile homes and other modular buildings.