

Solar Farm at Elon University

Guidelines for Faculty Taking Classes to Facility for Class Projects

In Advance

To take your class to the solar farm for a project, i.e., something other than a [tour](#), please submit the [Access Request Form](#) **at least three weeks in advance**.

Note: If project requires close access to the panels (less than 10 feet), submit Access Request Form at least five weeks in advance. Such requests require an additional level of approval and the requesting faculty member to complete safety training prior to access.

Transportation to and from the solar farm for class projects must be arranged by the faculty member. [Vans can be reserved through 25 Live](#). Van drivers must be on the University's [approved driver list and be van certified](#). The solar farm address is 2655 W. Front Street Burlington, NC 27215.

You will receive notification of approval or denial of your request at least 7 days before your requested access date. Approvals will include the name and contact information of the Elon staff member who will meet you and your class at the solar farm on the access day. You will also receive a solar farm safety statement, which must be included in the syllabus for the class. This safety statement must be reviewed with your class prior to the access day.

If project requires close access to the panels (less than 10 feet), complete the required safety training and submit your proof of completion to sustainability@elon.edu at least 7 days before your requested access day. You are expected to share the pertinent safety information and measures from the training with your class *prior* to the access day.

Access Day (if approved)

An Elon staff member will meet you and your class at the solar farm gate at the time requested. He or she will unlock the gate and accompany the class for the duration of their access. Once the group is inside the gate, it will be closed.

Keep in mind the solar farm is an operational electrical generating facility. There is a possible danger of electric shock. DC voltage is always present when the solar photovoltaic panels are exposed to sunlight. Assume DC voltage is present, even if it is cloudy or at night. It is a 1,000 volts DC / 25,000 volts AC system. In the event of a fault, high voltages can be present anywhere throughout the system and danger to life due to electric shock is possible. Because a fault in the system will not be obvious, always exercise extreme caution when around all system components.

When in the solar farm gate, the faculty member is responsible for the safety of everyone in the class. The following requirements must be adhered to at all times:

- Vehicles driven into the site must stay on the gravel access road at all times.
- Stay 10 feet away from all system components, including any panels, wiring, racking, inverters, etc., at all times.
- If the project work requires close access to the panels (less than 10 feet), the safety information and measures from the completed training must be adhered to at all times.
- Do not touch any of the system components (panels, wiring, racking, inverters, etc.) under any circumstances.
- In the unlikely event of an electric shock, do not touch the impacted individual or you too will be shocked. Call 911 immediately and notify Campus Safety & Police (336-278-5555).

Following these safety requirements is a condition of Elon University's agreement with the solar farm's owner, Loy Farm Solar LLC. Violating them may jeopardize the ability to access the site for educational purposes.

The Elon staff member accompanying your class will lock the solar farm gate when the group exits the site.

After Visit

When your class' project is complete, submit it to the [Sustainability Project Database](#).