

# Solar panels on farmland





## Overview

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Farmers installing solar panels are reporting multiple benefits beyond just energy savings, including improved water conservation, new revenue streams, and even enhanced growing conditions for certain crops. Should solar energy be located on farmland?

Locating solar energy on farmland could significantly increase the available land for solar development, while maintaining land in agricultural production and expanding economic opportunities for farmers, rural communities, and the solar industry.

How can farmers benefit from solar energy?

Farmers can benefit from solar energy in several ways—by leasing farmland for solar; installing a solar system on a house, barn, or other building; or through agrivoltaics. Agrivoltaics is defined as agriculture, such as crop production, livestock grazing, and pollinator habitat, located underneath solar panels and/or between rows of solar panels.

Can you build a solar farm on agricultural land?

While obtaining planning consent for ground-mounted solar farms on agricultural land can be challenging – Andrew Shirley, our Head of Rural Research, advises it can “easily take ten years to get a scheme off the ground” - rural properties often feature large barns with roofs suitable for solar panel installations.

Are solar farms a viable option for rural landowners?

In an era marked by surging energy costs and a global push towards sustainability, rural landowners are increasingly considering renewable energy solutions to enhance their properties and finances. Among these solutions, solar farms stand out as a viable option.



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Researchers make stunning discovery after examining solar panels ...

Jan 4, 2025 · The more clean, renewable energy we can create, the better for the planet.

Researchers make stunning discovery after examining solar panels on farmland -- here's how ...

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Farmer's Guide to Going Solar

3 days ago · Farmers can benefit from solar energy in several ways--by leasing farmland for

solar; installing a solar system on a house, barn, or other building; or through agrivoltaics. ...

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Solar Energy & Farmland - F

Dec 4, 2025 · Additionally, solar panels pose little to no environmental risk to the soil or surrounding community during construction, operation, removal, and disposal. The internal ...

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Are Solar Farms Really Displacing Agricultural Land?

Do solar farms really destroy valuable farmland? In debates about renewable energy, it is often claimed that installing solar panels on farmland renders it unusable for agriculture - taking ...

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Agrivoltaics 101: All You Need to Know about ...

In agrivoltaics, solar panels are typically mounted on structures above crops or grazing areas. These panels generate electricity while simultaneously ...

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Smart Solar on Farmland and Ranchland

Nov 25, 2024 · --including on farmers and ranchers. In addition, solar energy leases can generate new streams of income for farmland owners, helping to keep the farm viable. But ...

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Farmers Adding Solar Panels to Fields: Benefits & Reasons

Jul 8, 2025 · Solar installations address these challenges by creating new, stable revenue sources while reducing operational costs. Many farmers leverage solar income to weather market ...

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FactSheet: Solar Farms and Agricultural Land 2024 , Final

Jun 18, 2024 · Typically solar farms are subject to a Landscape and Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) which requires the ground beneath and around the panels to be seeded and ...

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Farmers Adding Solar Panels to Fields: ...

Jul 8, 2025 · Solar installations address these challenges by creating new, stable revenue sources while reducing operational costs. Many farmers ...

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America's most productive farmland is at risk ...

Apr 29, 2024 · No one knows how much cropland nationwide is currently under solar panels or leased for possible future development.

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### Rollins Prevents USDA from Funding Solar ...

Aug 20, 2025 · Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced that the USDA will no longer use taxpayer dollars to fund solar panel projects on ...

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### Harvesting the Sun-Twice: Agrivoltaics and Rural Land-Use

Jun 11, 2025 · Choices made early on, like the inter-panel and inter-row spacing between solar panels, will impact the kind of farming that can be supported. In conclusion, the long-term ...

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### Solar Panels for Farms: Boost Productivity and Cut Costs with

Nov 12, 2024 · Discover how solar panels can transform your farm into a sustainable energy source. This guide covers the benefits of adopting solar technology, including cost savings, ...

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### The pros and cons of solar farms in ...

Oct 24, 2023 · In an era marked by surging energy costs and a global push towards sustainability, rural landowners are increasingly considering ...

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### What Are the Best Solar Panels for Farming?

Sep 29, 2022 · In this guide to installing solar panels for agricultural use, you'll learn: Why is solar on farmland beneficial? Can solar provide ...

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### The Rise of Agrivoltaics: Can Solar Farming Be ...

Jan 5, 2025 · Agrivoltaics, sometimes referred to as dual-use solar farming, involves the installation of solar panels on farmland in a manner that ...

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### Solar farming is taking land once used to ...

Jun 3, 2024 · Scott Thellman grows a mix of organic produce and conventional crops on land adjacent to a planned utility-scale solar farm ...

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Jan 5, 2025 · Agrivoltaics, sometimes referred to as dual-use solar farming, involves the installation of solar panels on farmland in a manner that allows for both energy production and ...

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### Solar farming is taking land once used to grow food. Can we do both at

Jun 3, 2024 · Scott Thellman grows a mix of organic produce and conventional crops on land adjacent to a planned utility-scale ...

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Solar Power Installation on Agricultural Land , Live to Plant

Jul 18, 2025 · Solar power installation on agricultural land involves setting up photovoltaic (PV) panels or solar infrastructure either alongside crop production or on underutilized sections of ...

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Agrivoltaics 101: All You Need to Know about Solar Farming ...

In agrivoltaics, solar panels are typically mounted on structures above crops or grazing areas. These panels generate electricity while simultaneously allowing crops to grow underneath. ...

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