

## Are there subsidies for installing photovoltaic panels in rural areas

Are solar panels a good fit for your farm?

Solar panels can increase your operation's profitability. One government grant program for solar panels on farms is called the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). Why solar energy may be a good fit for your farmers and ranchers Tips and funding opportunities for solar projects on your farm

#### Can farmland be used for solar energy?

There is significant opportunity to produce large amounts of solar energy on farmland. Agricultural land in the U.S. has the technical potential to provide 27 terawatts of solar energy capacity. This is a quarter of the total U.S. solar energy capacity of 115 TW. Only 0.3% of farmland is expected to be used for solar energy by 2035.

#### Will agricultural land be used for solar energy?

Agricultural land in the U.S. has the technical potential to provide 27 terawatts of solar energy capacity. This is a quarter of the total U.S. solar energy capacity of 115 TW. Only 0.3% of farmland is expected to be used for solar energy by 2035. Will using land for solar panels drive up the price of food?

### What is a photovoltaic system?

A photovoltaic system (PV system) is a more scientific word for the typical solar panel(or PV module) system we think of when we say "solar energy." The USDA wants to incentivize farmers to make the upgrade toward more renewable energy systems. That's apparent by their investment in sustainability climate smart agriculture projects.

### Does Massachusetts have a solar photovoltaic program?

As Massachusetts has a strong existing solar photovoltaic industry, the initiatives offered under the SFA Program are designed to leverage federal funding and existing Massachusetts programs, such as the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target program and Mass Save.

#### 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.

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program provides loans to finance energy efficiency and conservation projects, specifically in rural areas. The Rural Utilities Service administers programs that provide or improve infrastructure to ...



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