

# BUTLER RURAL COMMUNITY SOLAR



## An affordable, effortless way for cooperative members to add solar power to their energy mix

The Butler Rural Community Solar program allows members to purchase subscriptions to solar panels. Subscribers support the benefits of solar energy without incurring upfront costs and without having solar panels located at their home. Generating energy with solar power creates no pollution or carbon dioxide emissions and is a clean and renewable energy source.

Participating in Butler Rural Community Solar will not decrease your monthly electric bill. The community solar rate is \$0.10136 per kilowatt-hour. The average cost is approximately \$1 per month per panel with the solar credit applied. This estimated cost will be in addition to participating members' current electric bills.

Members who participate in Butler Rural Community Solar can lock in the community solar rate for up to 20 years. This rate will remain constant for the duration of your agreement while other wholesale energy costs are subject to increase with market fluctuations.

Our first community solar array is located on the corner of Lanes Mill and Stillwell Beckett roads across from our office. Construction for the 228 panel array was completed in February 2017. Our newest array was completed in July 2022 and is located in Findlay, Ohio. This larger array, built

together with Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, has nearly 100 solar panels still available for our members.

### **What is Butler Rural Community Solar?**

Butler Rural Electric Cooperative's community solar program offers one of the cleanest and most affordable renewable energy sources available. By grouping solar panels together, costs can be shared, power output can be maximized, and the hassle of rooftop installation can be avoided.

### **Is there a limit on the number of panels I can subscribe to?**

There is a limit of ten panels per member.

### **Will equipment be hooked up to my home?**

No. The power generated by Butler Rural Community Solar will be utilized on Butler Rural Electric Cooperative's distribution lines.

### **If I subscribe to a solar panel, will my monthly bill change?**

You will continue to receive your monthly bill, but your bill will show that a portion of your energy is produced by the solar panels you subscribe to and pay for at the community

## BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY SOLAR

No upfront costs • No maintenance costs • No installation barriers like trees, roof size, or house orientation and location • Lock in your energy costs • Immediately available solar power



solar rate. The community solar rate is currently higher than energy produced by traditional resources.

#### **How will this help increase sustainability?**

Butler Rural Community Solar is a local power source, which allows cooperative members to have more control over a portion of their power supply. Generating energy with solar power creates no pollution or carbon dioxide emissions and is a clean, renewable, and sustainable alternative energy source.

#### **How long is the term of the agreement?**

Members can choose a five, 10, or 20 year agreement. The Butler Rural Community Solar rate will be fixed during the agreement but is subject to change after the agreement ends.

#### **How does community solar compare to installing solar at my home?**

Butler Rural Community Solar gives members an opportunity to benefit from this clean energy source because it's built and maintained at a central location. This eliminates common barriers — such as trees, roof size, and house location — that prevent people from installing solar panels on their property. Further, all ongoing costs are included in the subscription rate, so there is no need to worry about unexpected future costs.

#### **Can anyone subscribe to Butler Rural Community Solar?**

Only residential members in good financial standing with the cooperative can subscribe to panels.

Members who participate in net metering and net billing cannot participate in community solar. Net metering and net billing allows members to purchase, install, and own their own solar and wind generation. These members cannot participate in community solar because the rate structure for these accounts, in terms of costs and credits, is not compatible with the community solar program. Butler Rural Community Solar is intended for members who want to participate in renewable energy without the liability and costs of home-installed solar energy.

#### **What happens if I move?**

If you move to another location within the cooperative's service territory, your subscription can "move" with you! If you move out of the service territory, you can return your subscription to Butler Rural Electric Cooperative at no cost.

#### **What if I cancel the agreement early?**

The subscription may be returned to Butler Rural Electric Cooperative by paying an administrative fee of \$50 per panel.

 Sign up today! 

To sign up for Butler Rural Community Solar, or to learn more about the program, visit [butlerrural.coop](http://butlerrural.coop) > Energy Solutions > Member Programs > Community Solar or call us at 513-867-4400.