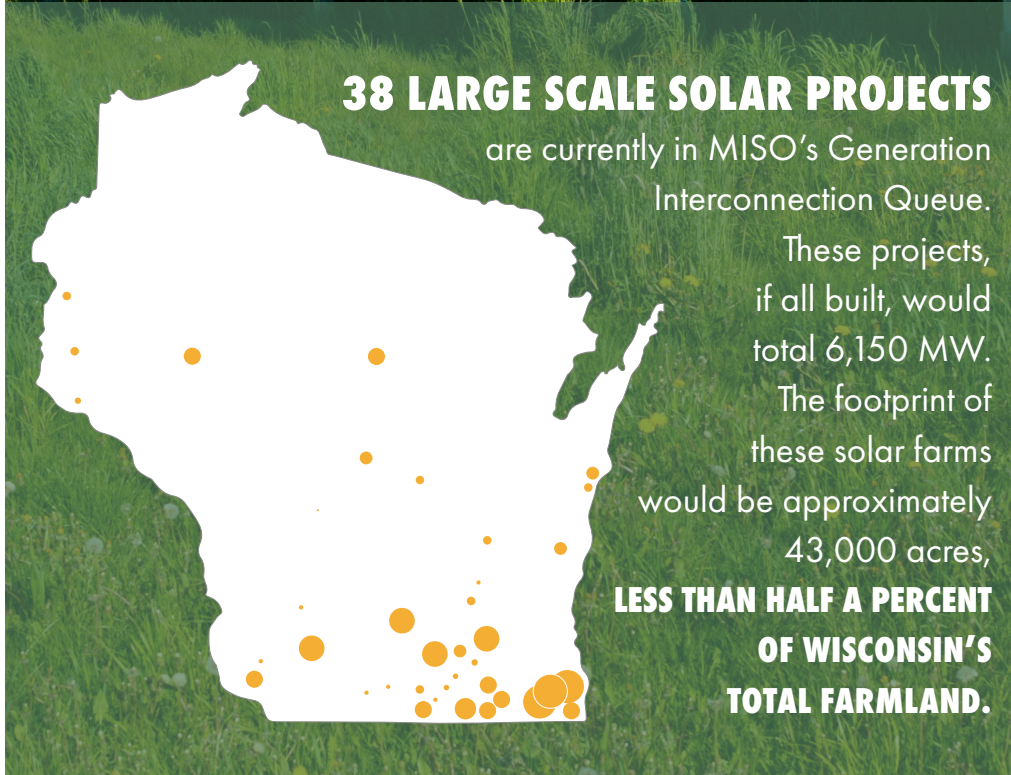


SOLAR AND AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

Wisconsin farmers have played a crucial role in providing food and energy to our communities for decades. Farmers now have a new opportunity to provide clean, renewable energy to the people of Wisconsin today and well into the future. Trends in conventional crop production have fostered ripe conditions for farmers to implement new ways to generate revenue. Crop yields are up, we are growing far more crops on less land, and commodity prices are low due to market conditions largely beyond farmers' control.

Solar farms offer energy independence with millions of dollars pumped into our rural communities. Solar-hosting farmers will have a new, reliable source of revenue for years to come.



LESS THAN A HALF A PERCENT OF WISCONSIN'S TOTAL LAND WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUPPLY HALF OF OUR STATE'S ELECTRICITY WITH SOLAR.

THE LAND REQUIRED TO SUPPLY HALF OF OUR STATE'S ELECTRICITY FROM SOLAR PV IS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AMOUNT THAT IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM.



CROP PRODUCTION IN WISCONSIN

We are growing more crops today than we were 35 years ago and doing so on fewer harvested acres of land. Crop yields are expected to continue increasing, exacerbating an already oversaturated marketplace. Some crop producers are looking far and wide for new ways to generate revenue. Solar farms can offer a revenue solution.



FINANCING LAND CONSERVATION

Federal taxpayers are paying to take cropland out of production through the U.S. Conservation Reserve Program. Today in Wisconsin, nearly 100,000 acres are not being farmed in order to preserve the land, reduce the volume of crops produced, and manage oversupply. Utility-scale solar projects provide very similar land preservation and conservation, but do not require taxpayer dollars. In fact, they inject money into local communities through host lease payments, Wisconsin's Shared Revenue Formula, which provides funds to the host local governments, and increased local spending.



ENERGY PRODUCTION AND FARM LAND

Many farmers today are already in the energy production business. About 37% of the corn already grown in Wisconsin is used for ethanol, a common form of biofuel. Incorporating solar onto the farm is simply another form of Wisconsin-made energy that farmers can provide our state.

In addition, plantings under the solar arrays can be designed to support agricultural purposes such as increasing pollinators like bees and butterflies, rebuilding the soil so that the ground is more fertile when replanted, and provide similar functions as land in the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

To learn more about this subject visit www.renewwisconsin.org/solar-and-agricultural-land-use



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