

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

OurSolar expansion coming to Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative

Buckeye Power, in collaboration with Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative, is developing an expansion to OurSolar, a community solar program developed and operated by Ohio's Electric Cooperatives. OurSolar is a green energy option that's available to cooperative members. The expansion will begin in fall 2021; the new facility is anticipated to be operational by summer 2022.

Why OurSolar?

OurSolar differs from other utility-scale solar projects in a few ways:

- OurSolar is operated by the cooperative to provide power to only cooperative members in Ohio. Non-members are not eligible to receive power through the OurSolar program.
- OurSolar is sized to meet the demand from cooperative members who choose to subscribe to the OurSolar program. As such, the OurSolar facility requires a much smaller footprint than other utility-scale projects.

A cooperative approach = better pricing for you

OurSolar provides a cooperative-based approach to solar energy, which enables cooperative members to

participate in using green energy, cost-effectively. By subscribing to the OurSolar program, members do not need to purchase or install their own solar panels.

The current solar array is located at the corner of U.S. 224 and T.R. 215. OurSolar was introduced to the members in 2016 to offer a solar option without the added costs of owning their own panels. Members were able to purchase up to 10 panel subscriptions, and the energy produced by those panels are calculated into members' monthly bills. The panels cost members less than \$2 per month per panel. The program has been very popular with our members; we sold all our panels from the first project within two weeks. When the expansion is complete, we will be reaching out to our waitlist members to offer a chance to purchase panels. The expanded facility will occupy about 15 acres, and we are happy to offer this option to our members.



Bill Barnhart
 INTERIM
 PRESIDENT & CEO

New faces at Hancock-Wood

Sara Weasel has been hired as the senior financial accountant. Sara attended Patrick Henry High School and Owens Community College and obtained her bachelor's degree in accounting and business administration from Heidelberg University. Sara's hobbies include running half-marathons, CrossFit, and biking.

Alex Scholl has been hired as an apprentice lineworker. He attended Mississinawa Valley High School in Union City, Ohio. Alex enjoys golfing, going to the gym, and watching football.



Sara Weasel



Alex Scholl

Welcome to Hancock-Wood Electric, Sara and Alex!

Your cooperative is your solar partner

You can see them on fields of open land, on top of people's homes, and even on backpacks. These days, more and more homeowners are considering installing solar panels on their rooftops. Whether you're interested in saving money or helping the environment, there are many benefits from solar energy.

Installing solar panels on your property is major household decision. Our energy advisor can provide some valuable advice throughout the process so there are no surprises down the road.

We are your trusted energy advisor because our motivations are not profit driven. We are your member-owned, member-driven, not-for-profit electric cooperative that exists to improve the quality of life for our members and our communities. Every decision we make is with our members' best interests in mind.

With a project of this magnitude, choosing the right professionals and companies to install your solar panels is an important consideration. Your electric co-op can work with you to help you make the best decision possible.

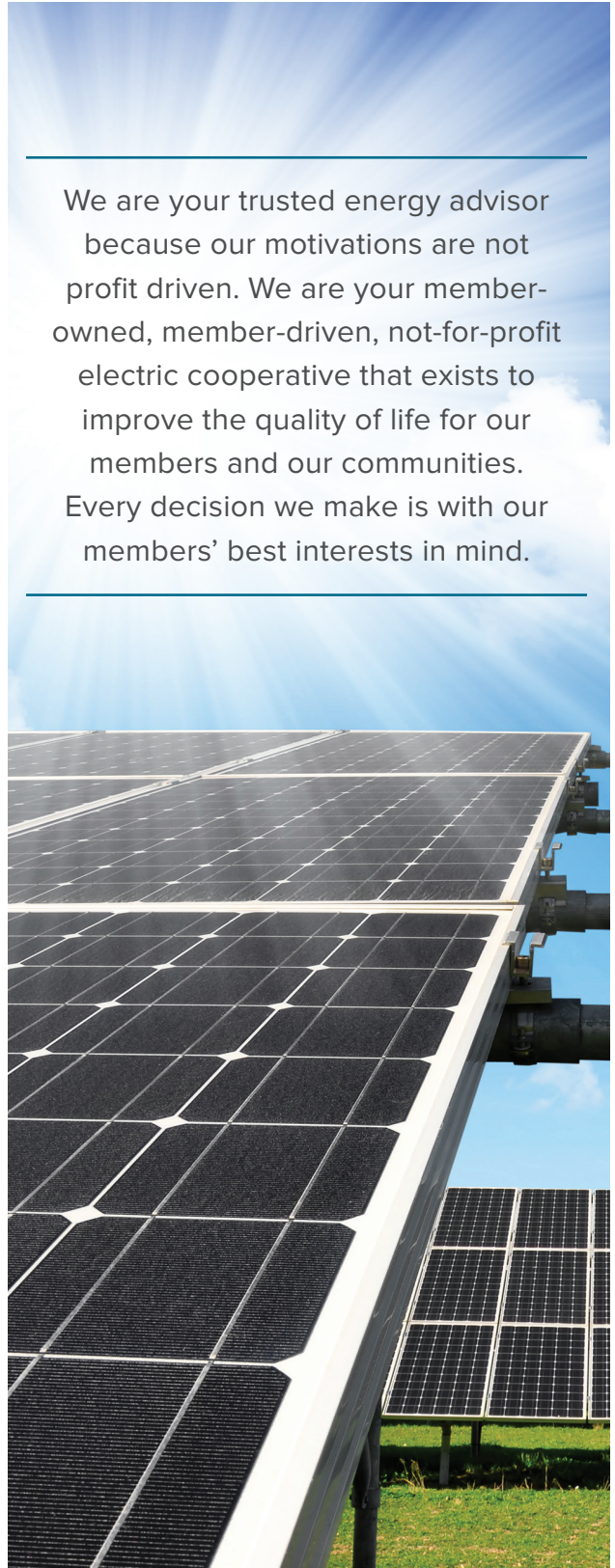
Hancock-Wood can help you determine whether your home or property makes sense for solar panels. If it does, we can work with you and your solar contractor to make sure you understand the terms of repayment, transfer of ownership if you were to sell your home, whether your contractor charges maintenance fees, and other details of the process.

Our energy advisor can discuss how your solar panel system will integrate with Hancock-Wood's electric distribution grid and how energy generated will be compensated through our net metering policies. A proactive cooperative-contractor-homeowner partnership from the beginning of the project helps to ensure you have the best possible experience and outcome with your solar project.

A key consideration if you're looking to lower your energy costs is to ensure your home has reached its peak efficiency. Implementing energy efficiency measures like adding insulation, sealing joints and cracks for air leakage, or replacing old, inefficient appliances with new ENERGY STAR models are investments you should consider to maximize the value of any energy solution. An energy audit can be a great start. Hancock-Wood offers a free energy audit to provide you with specific efficiency recommendations for your individual home.

If you're interested in lowering your electric bills or learning more about renewable energy, please reach out to our energy advisor. Your electric cooperative is a great resource to discuss the benefits and considerations of rooftop solar, especially before making any agreements with solar vendors.

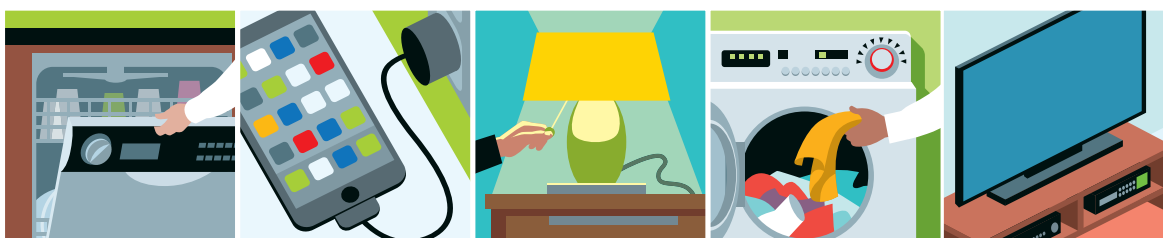
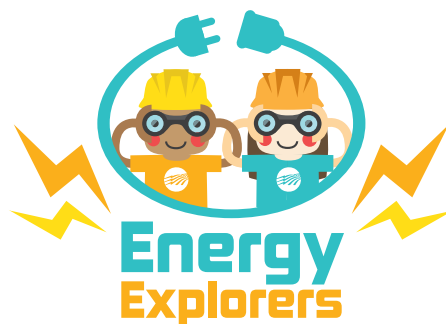
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ENERGY SAVINGS FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

Saving energy at home can help your family save money and help our environment. Test your energy efficiency knowledge by completing this fill-in-the-blank activity.

Tip: Use the word bank for help. Don't forget to check your answers in the key below!



1. Turning off the tap water while brushing your teeth can save up to four _____ of water per minute.
2. Energy vampires, like TVs and phone chargers, consume _____ even when they're not in use. Turn these devices off to save energy.
3. Turning off _____ every time you leave the room saves energy.
4. Wash clothes in _____ water to reduce the load on your water heater.
5. LED light bulbs typically use 75% less energy than _____ light bulbs.
6. To save energy, only run full loads when running the _____.

Word Bank:

incandescent	dishwasher
electricity	gallons
lights	cold

Answer Key: 1) gallons 2) electricity 3) lights 4) cold 5) incandescent 6) dishwasher

Think Energy \$mart with Bruce



To complete the series on different types of water heaters this month, I am going to share information about electric heat pump water heaters. The price to purchase a heat pump water heater from a box store is \$1,200 to \$1,500. If you have a contractor install it, the cost will be around \$2,000 to \$2,500.

Here are a couple advantages of using an electric heat pump water heater:

- Energy savings
 - ◇ A heat pump water heater will save you approximately 70% over a traditional electric water heater tank.
- Ease of installation
 - ◇ A heat pump water heater requires no gas line or flue pipe to be vented to the outside.

Here are a couple disadvantages of using an electric heat pump water heater:

- Clearance space
 - ◇ A heat pump water heater requires 750 to 1,000 cubic feet of air to work properly, so installation is limited to large open areas
- Cooling of the ambient air
 - ◇ A heat pump water heater works like a refrigerator in reverse, so the unit will cool the air around the water heater, possibly making that space uncomfortable.

It is a good idea to research the type of water heater you are interested in before your existing unit fails. This prevents you from having to make a rash decision when you are without hot water.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

from Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative!

Our office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Nov. 25 and Nov. 26 so that our employees may celebrate the holiday with their families.

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HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

Email your ideas to:
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Members First! 
HANCOCK-WOOD
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