



# CHAFFIN FARMS

**FAMILY ORGANIC FARM  
ITHACA, MI | CASE STUDY**

Chaffin Farms has successfully implemented a 520.56kW ground-mounted solar array. This initiative has resulted in \$71,734 of annual cost savings and was awarded the USDA Reap Grant.

## AT A GLANCE

### CHALLENGES

- Capital Investment
- Available ground space on a growing farm
- New utility policies
- Regulatory & zoning issues

### BENEFITS

- Huge Environmental Impact
- Significant reduction of electric bill
- Long-Term Sustainability
- Hedge operating costs against rising electric rates
- Tax Incentives

"I would recommend Harvest Solar because they were honest on a price, timeframe, and how to do the grant writing. So, as we worked through the project, everything they said they would do, they did, and even if there were small changes, they worked with us and were fair."

### BEN CHAFFIN

Owner of Chaffin Farms



Scan the QR Code to learn more about Chaffin Farms' Solar Success Story!

## OBJECTIVES

Chaffin Farms, like many other expanding farms, faces significant energy demands. The substantial energy required for food production and operating grain bins contributes to a large environmental footprint. This makes solar energy an attractive solution. Rising and unpredictable utility rates have become a financial hurdle to the farm's growth, prompting the search for a more stable and environmentally friendly alternative.

## SOLUTIONS

To address the needs of a growing family-owned farm, Ken Zebarah undertook a thorough solar analysis, considering factors such as optimal placement on unusable land, current utility rates, and available tax incentives. The outcome is a 520.56kW ground-mounted system designed to meet the farm's substantial energy demands. With the shift to solar power, Chaffin Farms can now not only sustain their communities with food but also generate their own energy, cushioning themselves against rising utility costs and reducing food production expenses.

## FAST FORWARD

### Estimated kWh Generation

This solar array has a nameplate capacity of 520.56kWdc and is estimated to generate approximately 689,410kWh per year.

### Estimated Savings

The projected savings on utility bills over 30 years from this solar array amount to \$4,484,135.

### Estimated CO2 Offset

The solar array's estimated CO2 offset is equal to the emissions from burning 15,021,872 pounds of coal.

### Estimated Tax Incentives, Rebates, etc.

Chaffin Farms has factored in a 40% Federal Investment Tax Credit and awarded the USDA REAP Grant for this project to reduce the ROI to 2.4 years.



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**CONTACT US TODAY FOR YOUR FREE SOLAR ASSESSMENT**

**CALL 888-90-SOLAR**

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