

### The right choice in renewable energy







Solar

Wind

Biomas

Hydro

# envirowatts thanks you

Thank you for being a member of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, and for participating in the envirowatts program. We appreciate your efforts in helping your local co-op invest in renewable energy sources.

Your decision to be a part of this easy way to incorporate renewable energy into your life demonstrates your commitment to an environmentally friendly lifestyle. You've joined another 800 Kentuckians in this endeavor to create a community of envirowatts supporters.

Whether you've chosen to support solar, wind, biomass and/or hydro with your monthly contribution, you've played an essential role in keeping Kentucky's renewable efforts alive.

The envirowatts program began in 2003 with power plants that produce biomass energy from landfill gas. Each plant converts methane that is produced from decaying trash into electricity. These plants still provide the biomass portion of the program, and have been applauded for being both environmentally responsible and cost efficient. In 2014, new options were added to envirowatts – solar, wind and hydro.

For just \$2.75 per portion, per month, co-op members across the state are participating just like you. We value your decision and will send you updates through this e-newsletter periodically.

envirowattsky.com

## How envirowatts works

There are many benefits of purchasing envirowatt portions: you help support the future of renewable energy and you help reduce carbon dioxide emissions – all things to feel good about.

With four options, including solar, wind, biomass and hydro, you have the choice of how your renewable energy dollars are spent. You have the power to designate how your \$2.75 portion is used. Each renewable energy option has a varying amount of carbon dioxide offset per portion.

For example under current market prices, a \$2.75 portion of solar supplies around 1,559 pounds of carbon dioxide offset. That's the equivalent to removing emissions from consumption of 79 gallons of gasoline or annual greenhouse gas emissions from 1,754 miles/year driven by an average passenger vehicle.

If you purchase a \$2.75 portion of wind, you offset around 4,973 pounds of carbon dioxide. That's the equivalent to removing emissions from consumption of 253 gallons of gasoline or annual greenhouse gas emissions from 5,595 miles/year driven by an average passenger vehicle.

Purchasing a \$2.75 portion of hydro offsets around 6,921 pounds of carbon dioxide. That's the equivalent to removing emissions from consumption of 353 gallons of gasoline or annual greenhouse gas emissions from 7,787 miles/year driven by an average passenger vehicle.

If you purchase a \$2.75 portion of biomass you offset around 311

pounds of carbon dioxide. That's the equivalent to removing emissions from consumption of 16 gallons of gasoline or annual greenhouse gas emissions from 350 miles/year driven by an average passenger vehicle.

Plus, there's no maximum of portions you can purchase. To increase the green benefits of envirowatts, you can purchase as many portions as you'd like.

\*EPA.gov's Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator used to calculate savings. Current market prices are as of March 2021.

# Pounds of carbon dioxide offset annually per envirowatts portion purchased 8000 6000 5000 4000 5000 SOLAR WIND BIOMASS HYDRO

Click here and sign up today!



Your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative is an owner of <u>East Kentucky Power Cooperative</u>, a generation and transmission cooperative owned by 15 others. We work together to supply energy for more than 1.1 million Kentuckians collectively.

In 2018, EKPC's Board added "sustainability" to the cooperative's mission statement. For the past year, five employee teams have been gaining a better understanding of the changes taking place in and around the energy industry, changes that will affect EKPC for decades to come. These teams established the following principles and are developing plans to meet them.

The teams include: Energy and Environment, Employees, Owner-Members, Electric Grid and Financial Health, as we understand sustainability goes beyond environmental areas.

These sustainability teams are envisioned to continue functioning into the future, helping EKPC identify and meet key challenges. Sustainability will always be a moving target and this plan will change and evolve.

Learn more about this plan.

# What's Cooperative Solar?

Looking for another way to purchase renewable energy? Check out our <u>Cooperative Solar</u> program.

Co-op members can license solar panels at Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' not-for-profit 60-acre solar farm. You can tap into renewable solar energy for your home or business without the headaches of installing and maintaining solar panels themselves.

Many co-op members are interested in going solar but they face obstacles, such as:

- Covering their roof with solar panels.
- Maintaining the equipment themselves.
- Their home's roof is shaded by trees or is not aligned for optimum sun exposure.
- They rent their dwelling.
- Deed restrictions prevent installation of panels.

Cooperative Solar is renewable energy that is easy and affordable. Your electric cooperatives install and maintain solar panels on our property; and, with a one-time payment, coop members get credit on their monthly power bill for the energy produced by their share of the panels over the next 25 years.

For a one-time payment of \$460 per panel, participating members will receive a 25-year license to one of the panels. That means they will get credit on their monthly power bill for their proportional share of the energy generated by the solar farm, as well as the market value of their panel's capacity. And they can monitor panel performance online.

Cooperative Solar participants are joining a community of co-op members who are committed to the environment and the future.

Many businesses have sustainability goals that can be met through Cooperative Solar, which offers participants the option of retiring or monetizing the solar energy renewable credits associated with their share of the farm.

This is an easy, cost-effective way to enjoy the benefits of renewable solar energy and also manage energy costs.

Cooperative Solar Farm One is one of the biggest solar installations in Kentucky. Your cooperatives are leading the way in bringing renewable energy to our members and embracing the technologies of the future. Learn more and submit an application at <a href="https://www.cooperativesolar.com">www.cooperativesolar.com</a>.

Cooperative Solar

# Want to do more?

## The right choice for you

We know many Kentuckians are looking for ways to support renewable energy efforts. Again, we thank you for your support. Feel free to share this e-newsletter and talk about your participation with friends and family. You can also learn about ways to improve your home's energy efficiency by visiting <a href="https://www.togetherwesaveky.com">www.togetherwesaveky.com</a>. There's even an electric



vehicle calculator to help you understand the benefits of switching to an EV.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at <a href="info@envirowattsky.com">info@envirowattsky.com</a>.