

### **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

Custom project assistance and tools for people interested in pursuing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.



## **Renewable Energy for Greater Minnesota**

**Solar is an affordable and plentiful source of energy in Minnesota, and we're here to help farmers and rural small businesses get projects done.**

### **Thinking about solar energy and energy efficiency?**

- **Explore projects that could work for you.**  
Our website features stories about renewable energy and energy efficiency projects at Minnesota farms and small businesses.
- **Identify potential funding and financing options.**  
The USDA's Rural Energy for American Program (REAP) and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) are great ways to fund and finance projects.
- **Get one-on-one assistance on your project.**  
Melissa Birch, the CERTs Rural Energy Development Program Manager, can help you move your project forward.

# Funding your Clean Energy Efforts

There are several resources available to Minnesota farms and small businesses interested in renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements, and we can help you navigate them.

## USDA Rural Energy for America Program Grants and Loans

REAP from the USDA Rural Development is an opportunity for Minnesota farmers and rural businesses to save energy with efficiency work and add renewable energy systems.



## Property-Assessed Clean Energy Financing

PACE is a way to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades to the buildings of commercial property owners. Energy-saving measures receive financing and are repaid as a separate item on their property tax assessment.



To receive one-on-one assistance contact Melissa Birch, CERTs Rural Energy Development Manager, at 218-866-2338 or [mbirch@umn.edu](mailto:mbirch@umn.edu).