



Do amish use solar panels

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Later, in an Amish-owned store in another settlement, I viewed an array of technologies designed to harness the wind and sun. Amish, at least in some places, are taking up these technologies designed to latch onto the forces of nature.

A recent article looks at the first Amish household to adopt solar power in the community at Lyndonville, New York (Orleans County). Jonas Miller may be setting a trend for his community, where the church has officially sanctioned the technology. High diesel prices have driven the change to solar, which will be used to power the lights, cash register and other electrical needs for his general store; in his community of two dozen families.

Not all Amish are agreed on solar, as the article notes. On the one hand solar and wind seem like they'd fit the Amish (or at least the popular perception), being 'pure' power sources derived directly from God's natural abundance.

On the other, the appearance of solar technology just seems a little on the high-tech side. Sleek solar panels still look starkly futuristic and out-of-place attached to 19th-century Amish barns. Perhaps this is why some Amish groups balk at the idea of solar. Also, if a technology is adopted by a higher (less traditional) Amish group, that in and of itself can be enough to make lower groups resist signing on to it.

Do you use any solar technology? The only piece I own, besides an old calculator somewhere, is a little yard lamp, the kind popular among Amish, purchased in an Ohio Amish store. Amish are ahead of the curve here (or at least ahead of my curve).

It will be interesting to see to what degree Amish incorporate solar and wind technology. Maybe one day we'll observe Amish buggies rolling down the road, plastered with solar panels, or with whirling wind turbines planted on their roofs. Or maybe not.

On its own, that's a dramatic statement. There is some context, of course. First of all, who said it? This was Chet Lapp, a 37-year-old Amishman from Lancaster County. Lapp also happens to be a real estate agent in the community. From the WITF story by Rachel McDevitt: Chet Lapp, an Amish realtor, argues more of his fellow Amish should leave Lancaster County for the purpose;

Another feel-good story for your Friday; at least; part one; of the story. An Amish man named Nelson Troyer is spearheading an effort to move the garage of a non-Amish neighbor. Mike Kinsey lost his home in flooding on the Yellowstone River in 2022. The move is happening tomorrow and Troyer is looking to have 150+ people to get the job done. Amish moving;



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Holmes County locals had a really nice idea a few years ago to convert an old train bed into a multi-purpose pedestrian and horse trail. The Holmes County Trail was the result. The paved part actually stretches from Wayne County to Fredericksburg -around ten miles down to Millersburg, the Holmes County seat. It continues on in both directions unpaved. Motorized vehicular traffic is banned.

Sylvan, one of my Amish friends in Lancaster County, runs a scooter workshop in addition to milking cows. In Lancaster County and related settlements, you rarely see bicycles; in Lancaster, for instance, there are only a few church districts I'm aware of that seem to allow them. I've also seen scooters in use among the Amish of Allen County, Indiana, and I'd imagine they'd be found

Did you know that Amish have light switches in their homes? Neither did I. Well, I should say some Amish do have switches that don't turn anything on. For instance, when they buy a home that was previously English-owned, then tear out the electricity, as they'd be expected to do. The wall switches remain. Not those. I mean a light switch that actually brings light

I've got another singing video for you today; this one is titled "Amish Grandchildren singing for their Grandpa's Funeral." I share it for two reasons. One; it's another nice example of singing I hope you'll enjoy. Two; a comment attached to the video caught my eye (more below ?). First, the video. We are in a large open space, but I'm

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