



White River Solar

General Information & FAQs

2021-2022



The White River Solar program is moving into its third year and the program details remain the same. White River Solar has been fully leased since its first year with all existing leases eligible for renewal. Members may renew their existing solar lease or modify their block/tier election by completing the enclosed renewal lease and returning it to WREA. Please note that solar blocks that are not renewed will be made available to other members and may not be eligible for renewal in future years. Renewing leases must be signed and returned to WREA by mail (PO Box 958, Meeker, CO 81641) or email (kmatrisciano@wrea.org) by Thursday, April 29, 2021.

WHAT IS A SOLAR BLOCK? A block in White River Solar represents a panel, or series of panels, that can be annually leased for \$36.00 and generates a \$5.00 per month solar production credit.

HOW DO I RENEW A SOLAR BLOCK LEASE? Existing White River Solar participants may review, sign and return the enclosed White River Solar Renewal Lease form to WREA by Thursday, April 29, 2021. The selected lease fee will automatically appear on your May electric bill and is due no later than June 15, 2021. WREA requests that you do not mail in a check for the renewal fee because it will be automatically applied to your May bill.

HOW IS THE APPROPRIATE TIER DETERMINED? The appropriate tier is based upon monthly energy usage. Energy usage can be found on your monthly bill, online through SmartHub (www.wrea.org), or by calling WREA (970.878.5041). The monthly production credit cannot exceed the minimum monthly energy charge. Please select the tier that does not exceed your lowest energy usage based upon the previous year. Monthly production credits cannot offset a meter's monthly Service Charge. Should the monthly production credit exceed the monthly energy charge, the excess monthly production credit will be forfeited.

Example: A member's lowest residential monthly energy usage, based upon the previous 12 months, is \$30 (energy usage is in addition to the monthly Service Charge), then the member is eligible to lease up to 3 Solar Blocks for the specified meter. The annual Solar Block lease fee is \$108 with the production credit of \$15/month (\$180 / year). Alternatively, the member could elect to lease just 1 or 2 Solar Blocks. If a member has 3 meters, then 3 leases will be required.

WHO OWNS AND OPERATES THE SOLAR PANELS? White River Solar combines solar energy from the Meeker Solar Garden, located adjacent to the Meeker High School, and the Piceance Creek Solar Farm located off 567 RBC Road 83. WREA owns and operates the Meeker Solar Garden. WREA purchases all the solar production from Piceance Creek Solar as a part of its project with Cypress Creek Renewables. Leasing members do not "own" any portion of the solar facilities and have no responsibilities or liabilities associated with either solar production facility.

WHAT IS IN THE LEASE? The renewal lease is the same as the initial lease. It is intended to be a straightforward document whereby the WREA member commits to lease the specified solar blocks, agrees that the selected lease fee will be applied to their May electric bill, agrees to pay the lease fee and agrees that if the elected solar production credit exceeds the monthly energy usage, then that unused energy production credit will be forfeited for that month. The lease also outlines that it is a one-year lease, the lease fee is non-refundable, and the lease is not assignable or transferable to third parties. However, if a member moves within the WREA service area, the member can direct to apply the solar blocks from one specified meter to another eligible meter at its new house or business. Lease renewals must be returned to WREA by April 29, 2021 by mail or email.

WHY ARE THERE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SOLAR BLOCKS AVAILABLE FOR LEASE? WREA has allocated a specified amount of solar production for membership leasing and the balance will be applied to the benefit of the entire WREA system. Interested members who did not participate in the initial leasing program will be placed on the White River Solar wait list for the following renewal period. WREA's mission is simple; develop local renewable projects that make electric and economic sense for WREA and its membership. For WREA to maintain the successful economics of the project, WREA is required to maintain a portion of the solar production for the benefit of the entire system.

DO THESE PROJECTS MAKE WREA COMPLIANT WITH STATE RENEWABLE MANDATES? Yes, WREA is proud of its diverse renewable portfolio which includes the WREA Miller Creek Hydro Project and White River Solar. These combined projects exceed existing renewable mandates and has WREA well situated to remain compliant even if renewable mandates increase over the next few years.

WHEN ARE RENEWAL LEASES DUE? Solar Block leases are due to WREA no later than **Thursday, April 29, 2021.**

WHAT ARE THE TIERS? Tiers represent the options for Solar Block leasing along with corresponding yearly fee and monthly/yearly production credit.

		Residential Meters (R1)	
Tier Options	# of Blocks	Yearly Lease Fee	Production Credit (Mo/Yr)
1	1	\$36	\$5/\$60
2	2	\$72	\$10/\$120
3	3	\$108	\$15/\$180
		Commercial Meters: (SC1, SC3, L1)	
Tier Options	# of Blocks	Yearly Lease Fee	Production Credit (Mo/Yr)
1	5	\$180	\$25/\$300
2	10	\$360	\$50/\$600
3	20	\$720	\$100/\$1,200