



"We are thrilled to have our winery go solar. Not only will this project save us money, but we now have the first net-zero, completely solar-powered winery in the region."

ROBERT BRENGMAN, CRAIN HILL VINEYARD

Michigan's First Net-Zero Winery

Their Need

Crain Hill Vineyard is Michigan's first fully solar-powered vineyard. The Brengman Brothers had long wanted to be a model for sustainable farming, and were looking for a way to cut down the costs of lighting, heating, cooling and processing at their 45-acre vineyard and wine tasting facility. They sought a solar solution that would help them meet their environmental goals while also offering the best return on investment.

Our Solution

The owners hired Leelanau Solar to design and install three dual axis AllEarth Solar Trackers on their property, chosen for their locating flexibility and high production capabilities. These trackers provide all of the energy required to power their facilities, meaning the winery has achieved net-zero energy. The trackers also produce enough energy in peak summer months to offset winter needs.

kWh Production

The 18.7 kW system produces 30,000 kWh annually. Due to this high energy yield, the project payback period is estimated to be just seven years.

Project Specs

Installation Location

Traverse City, MI

Date Completed

August 2013

System Installer

Leelanau Solar

System Size

18.7 kW, 3 Series-24 AllEarth Solar Trackers

Electricity Generated

30,000 kWh / Year